

THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

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ECCLIASTICAL AFFAIRS.

WORKINGS OF WILLINGHOOD.

No. VIII.

SECTARIANISM.

BORN of a narrow mind—suckled by ignorance—reared to maturity by pride and passion—instinctively dogmatic, imperious, and exclusive—sectarianism, by adroitly yoking itself with conscience, has yet contrived to elude the severe condemnation which it deserves. Mark it well!—for it is wholly “of the earth, earthy.” That absurdly exaggerated estimate of differing shades of opinion—that disrelish for all truth which smacks not perceptibly of a given school—that contempt for such, however else distinguished, as cannot pronounce its darling shibboleth—that determined effort to pack up, in the small portmanteau of its own creed, reckless of rumple and fracture, the entire system of revealed religion—that eagerness to disparage all good but that which is effected under its own superintendence—that keen resentment against dissentients, intense, for the most part, in proportion to the minuteness of the difference by which it is provoked—that preference to walk and work apart, jealous lest others should share its reputation, influence, and honours—what are they all but human conceit and waywardness tricked out in the garb of spiritual profession?

Sectarianism is the spirit of party carried into the domains of conscience. It is opinion in the plural number and the imperative mood—cliqueism lording it over the understanding and the heart. Let us beware, however, of confounding things which differ. It is not the temper of a man's mind in respect of truth, or any portion of it, but the spirit in which that truth is held in relation to others, which constitutes sectarianism. There may be intimate conviction, there may be earnest faith, there may be warm and devout attachment, in regard to particular forms of religious doctrine and discipline, where no taint of sectarianism can be detected—there may be general scepticism or indifference, where it is present in full power. Not the form of truth embodied, but the embodiment of that form, calls it into play. Wherever men use opinion as the sole measure of virtue, look through it as the only medium through which to get a correct view of character and conduct, and mark off, in exact conformity with it, the limits within which their sympathy and co-operation must be confined—there the sectarian element is at work.

The grossest form of this spirit is bound up in the State-Church. Ascendancy by law constitutes a hot-bed for pushing into preternatural maturity the tendencies of human nature to run into castes. Dissent from a faith elevated by civil authority to a position of worldly pre-eminence, is an attack, not on barren opinions merely, but on substantial privileges, and evokes against itself the bitterest resentment of party. Then come, of course, the bridling up of fancied superiority—the ready imputation of corrupt and sordid motives—the fierce denunciation of alleged errors of judgment—the prompt withdrawal of social intimacy and confidence—the avowed desire of bringing contumacy to punishment—the resolute refusal to recognise it in any shape, to sanction it by charitable constructions, or to unite with it in acts of common benevolence. Heat is necessarily engendered on both sides, by the perpetual collisions of antagonism. The struggle is for mastery. The parties draw off into hostile divisions; and, as in a war between nations, the general feud is taken up by individuals against individuals, between whom no private malice exists, so, in the contest provoked by a State-Church, the public quarrel involves a systematic alienation of sect from sect, producing all the evils of personal enmity. Sectarianism will be rampant until civil establishments of religion shall have been abandoned.

Unhappily, the temper thus chafed into irritability exhibits itself in a thousand other directions—just as a man teased into anger, is angry with every one he may chance to meet. Sectarianism walks about undisguised beyond the pale of State-Churches. Denominations, not content with upholding and maintaining, as honourably they may, by fair argument and active exertion, their peculiarities of faith, seek to give a denominational stamp to every interest and movement of social life. The universal is jammed into the particular. The sect must needs undertake everything, as a sect, and act as though there were no other instrumentality for good in the wide world. In the organisation and distribution of its charities—in the erection and maintenance of schools—in the constitution and management of reading societies—in home and foreign missions—in the periodical press—each division of the Christian church prefers, in too many instances, to stand alone. There are nominal exceptions, but they are chiefly nominal. Real fusion is rare indeed. Even where parties come together, they come rather to watch each other, than to unite in hearty and unsuspecting effort.

The great evil of sectarianism is the benumbing influence it exerts upon both the intellect and the affections. Around both it draws its own narrow and arbitrary circle, and says, “Hitherto you shall go, but no further.” Discouraging inquiry, save when pursued in a given direction, and checking the free and spontaneous flow of the sympathies, it prevents the development of genuine Christian character. Let that denomination which draws around its fellowship the restrictive lines of sectarian clanship, expect the blight and the mildew upon the spot within! Let it look to see every virtue stunted in its growth! If, peradventure, the hardier and sterner products of the soil can live, it has reason to be thankful, albeit, they may turn out prickly, sapless, and unproductive; but the delicate, sensitive, and beautiful flowers of religion—the thousand little ornaments of character and worth, charming the eye, and diffusing fragrance through the atmosphere—how can they live upon the withered spot? Reason and experience tell us to seek them elsewhere.

We have already said enough, we would fain hope, to prove how utterly opposed is willinghood to sectarianism. Indeed, the last is but a subtler form of spiritual tyranny, and wherever it has sway, sits astride the conscience with as domineering a pertinacity, as did the old man upon the shoulders of Sinbad the sailor.

In a world like ours, abounding with physical and moral evils, most of which may be extirpated by resolute and judicious culture—where poor humanity, “sick of many griefs,” supplicates, in tears and groans, the promptest and most effective interposition of enlightened benevolence—to whose relief reason and religion counsel the most economical and well-planned management of all existing re-creative resources—can there be a more pitiable spectacle than that exhibited by rigid sectarianism? Is there not enough to do which all can, without compromise, unite in doing? What! Can we not all lend a hand in raising the fallen and the wounded, until it has been settled precisely next to whom, and where, we shall chance to stand? Does it befall us—does it do common justice to our race—to separate into cliques, and act, each party independently of the rest, in matters which bring neither into dispute nor display our several peculiarities of faith? Ought not the disciples of willinghood to be amongst the foremost, individually to cherish a large and Catholic liberality? Are they not bound to frown condemnation upon the causes and exhibitions of sectarianism? Should they quarrel with the results of free inquiry, or attempt indirectly either to reward or to punish conscientious conviction, because it differs somewhat from their own? Let us learn to give as well as take—to offer respect to independent thought as well as ask it. The prejudice against colour is as odious and mean in the spiritual as in the natural world—and party spirit is as mischievous, and, we much fear, as little scrupulous, in the Church as in the State.

ILLUSTRATIONS OF STATE-CHURCHISM.

In another part of our paper we record the proceedings of a meeting in Manchester which, considering its object, the sect and station of the persons who composed it, and the sentiments uttered by the speakers, we cannot but regard as of considerable importance. That our readers may better understand the circumstances of the case, we may inform them that the ecclesiastical superintendence of the parish of

Manchester was vested by a charter, last renewed under the auspices of Laud, in 1635, in a warden appointed by the Crown, and four fellows elected by the warden and fellows, who were declared a body corporate and politic of themselves for ever. The charter further ordains, that there shall be continually in the college two chaplains or vicars, and two clerks to administer the sacraments, visit the sick, and perform other religious offices; these, with some other subordinate officers, such as a treasurer, collector, master of the choir, four singing men, and four boys skilled in music, constituted the collegiate institution of Manchester, founded and endowed in honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. George, and St. Denis. Preparatory to the erection of the new see of Manchester, the warden and fellows have already taken the designation of dean and canons. One of the latter having accepted the principalship of St. Bees, is about to reside on his new benefice, of course still retaining his canonry and its emoluments. This proceeding is regarded with great disapprobation by some of the leading parishioners, and hence the meeting to which we have alluded. While concurring with many of the sentiments and feelings expressed by the speakers, we certainly do not participate in their “astonishment.” We are so convinced of the degrading and secularising influence of establishments on the character of the clergy, that greater instances of clerical inconsistency than this may occur “without our special wonder.” But so long as these memorialists retain their unfortunate inability to distinguish between the Church of England and the Church of Christ, and view “the order of things,” of which they complain, “as connected with a Christian church,” instead of as connected with a State-church, we dare say they will continue to be, as they one after another declared themselves, “greatly astonished.” We think, further, that their position as supporters of civil establishments of religion, deprives their remonstrances of all consistency and effect. Appeals from them to the offending canon as a Christian, a minister, and “the author of the old Church clock,” are absurd. Recognising the right of State interference in ecclesiastical affairs, and the supremacy of the law in religious matters, they cannot urge other or higher considerations. Having appealed unto Cæsar, unto Cæsar they must go. On their principles they are bound to presume that the decisions of the Legislature are reasonable and right. According to law must be deemed according to justice and morality. Mr. Parkinson's short answer, that he is acting legally, they are bound to take. His conduct may be inconsistent, but it is legal; it may be discouraging to religious effort, but it is legal; it may be unfair, unfaithful, avaricious, or mean, but it is perfectly legal. Neither the memorialists, nor any other inhabitants of Manchester, have any right to call him to account. He is altogether independent of them. They did not appoint him to office, they did not fix his duties, and they are compelled to pay his salary. He is indebted to the State for all he has, and is bound to obey it in all he does. To his own master he stands or falls. These gentlemen expect Mr. Parkinson to be influenced by the fact, that the spiritual interests of his parishioners will be prejudiced if he continues to hold both benefices—that is, that he shall have a moral sense, higher than, and opposed to, the law which creates his office, fixes his duty, and, in fact, determines his very necessity and existence as a clerical official. We think we may safely predict that they will be disappointed. We greatly doubt if they will succeed even in disturbing the reverend gentleman's peace of mind, which they seem to consider the next best thing to inducing him to give up his canonry. We have no hope that Mr. Birley's benevolent wish, that the reverend canon's “conscience may prick him,” will be realised. It is too much to expect that the clergy should be better than the vicious system which creates them.

We were not prepared to find, in the circumstances of the established sect in Manchester, such a remarkable example of the comparative merits of voluntary and State provision for religious instruction. The income of the Collegiate Institution, in the time of Elizabeth, was £226 12s. 5d. It is impossible to say what the precise revenue is now, for the collegians are sworn to “keep the secrets of the chapter-house, and pursue the honour and profit of the fellows, collegians.” The annual income is obviously a secret intimately affecting the honour and profit of the fellows, and has been most religiously kept; but the Church Commissioners estimate it at £4,650. Not a penny of this enormous increase has been applied to Church extension, nor have the efforts or labours of the collegians been increased or varied in any way.

They perform precisely the same amount of duty (the treasurer and collector always excepted), and retain precisely the same means and appliances in the days of Victoria as were deemed suitable in those of Elizabeth. They provide the same religious instruction for a population of 400,000 in the nineteenth century, as for one of 10,000 in the sixteenth, and meet the spiritual necessities of a dense manufacturing community by "a warden, with four fellows, four singing men, and four boys skilled in music." On the other hand, voluntary Christian benevolence in the established sect has built and endowed not less than eighteen churches, independent of several erected by the Parliamentary commission, which, we suppose, are more or less indebted to the same voluntary aid for endowment and support. However voluntaryism may be sneered at, and State support eulogised by interested Churchmen, the experience of this town, at least, is dead against them, and henceforth whoever wants an illustration of the signal success of the former, and the complete failure of the latter, may look at Manchester.

We consider this meeting a very gratifying sign of the times. Ten years ago all the canons in the college might have "gone off" without making half the noise this one has occasioned. Now, however, we find conservative Churchmen, whose reputation for piety, influence, and wealth, is second to none in Lancashire, most strenuous remonstrants against the abuse. We cannot but see in this a signal proof of the progress of that intelligence, love of right, and correct appreciation of Christian principle, which will ultimately divest the State-church question of even the appearance of sectarianism.

Men, such as those whose speeches we have reported, having discovered an evil, will not long remain blind to its true source; and we do not believe that pious Episcopalians can contemplate a system, which degrades their clergy, discourages religious effort, and retards Christianity, without striving for its removal. Anti-state-churchism will gather some of its most strenuous supporters from the ranks of the establishment.

CHURCH PATRONAGE AT MANCHESTER AND CANON PARKINSON.

The *Manchester Guardian* devotes more than two columns to the report of a meeting of "laymen," members of the Established Church, who have taken the liberty of addressing a memorial to the Dean and Chapter of Manchester, complaining that Mr. Parkinson has accepted the office of President of the College of St. Bees, whilst he retains his canonry of Manchester. From the speech of Mr. Malcolm Ross, it appears that out of a population of 200,000 persons in the parish, just 480 individuals were sufficiently awake to the evil of pluralities in the church to affix their names to the memorial, and of these 480 zealous Churchmen, not fewer than half-a-dozen were got together last Thursday but one, to pronounce a condemnation on Mr. Parkinson, and to declaim against the conduct of the Dean in declining to receive a deputation which the said half-a-dozen gentlemen had intended to favour him with.

We learn from our contemporary that this alarming gathering of the discontented was held in the B committee-room at the Town-hall, and was composed of the following very respectable individuals:—Messrs. Robert Gardner, Richard Birley, Malcolm Ross, Thomas Clegg, John Harrison, and Edward Lomas. "On the motion of Mr. Ross, seconded by Mr. Birley, Mr. Robert Gardner was called to the chair." The following summary of the speeches delivered, as well as the running comment, is gathered from the *Manchester Examiner* of Saturday:—

The CHAIRMAN, in opening the business, said that the meeting had been convened to receive the report of the deputation appointed to present the memorial to the dean and chapter relative to the Rev. Canon Parkinson, and he regretted to inform the meeting that the dean had declined to call a chapter, or to receive a deputation. In speaking of Mr. Parkinson's conduct, he thought that "to say the least of it, it was very discouraging to the laity." He spoke of "the destitute state of our population," and remarked with sorrow and bitterness on "this perfect indifference and this apathy in the heads of our church clergy." He declared that "even Government itself had felt this," and that from this apathy and indifference "a great portion of the people had become Dissenters of various denominations," and what was still worse, "these Dissenters of course had that influence," that "a great portion of our members of Parliament are returned from Dissenting influences of various sorts." Mr. Gardner very mercifully did not "expect impossibilities from the Church or its clergy," but he had a right to expect that "they should have done a great deal more than they have done." Mr. Gardner evidently looks upon the question in a commercial point of view. The clergy are paid to perform certain duties, and the public have a right to expect more work for their money; and if Dissenters spring up, it is only to be compared to having crops of thistles where good orthodox grain was expected.

Mr. RICHARD BIRLEY came next, and read the correspondence which had passed between himself and the Dean, in which the latter evidently has the advantage. Mr. Birley admitted, that "it was a very disagreeable subject for any well-wisher of the Church to be engaged in;" and, in commenting on the conduct of Mr. Parkinson, he gave menacing warning to Mr. Clifton, the last appointed canon, and hoped "that, after ten years of active service here, we should not have him fired out, and retiring like Mr. Parkinson." Mr. Birley alluded to former years, "when the fellows were certainly no credit to the Church"—a remark which, to the uninitiated in Church phraseology, sounds somewhat uncivil and contemptuous. He expressed his surprise that a clergyman "who had taken such an active part in promoting and extending the usefulness of the Church should, while keeping the emoluments derived from that Church, retire so entirely as he (Mr.

Parkinson) seemed to be intending to do from the parish." When he heard that the rev. canon was selling his house, and was really "going off," "his feelings were little short of indignation. Certainly they were feelings of astonishment." Mr. Birley reminds Mr. Parkinson of the "emoluments" he receives, of the "sermons he has preached," of the "Old Church Clock," which he has published, and thinks "his conscience must prick him—he hoped that it would," thus charitably wishing that his once bosom friend, in the retirement and dignity to which he is looking forward at St. Bees, may be pursued by the terrors of a guilty conscience!

Mr. MALCOLM ROSS even improves upon the preceding speakers. He alluded to the Dean's "want of courtesy" to the 480 memorialists; and, with reference to the general conduct of the chapter, and their notorious neglect of duty, he observed that "it did seem surprising that, with that high function and office, they should neglect the original constitution of the college as to spiritual matters, and should, on a legal interpretation of an act of Parliament, abandon those higher functions." He thought that, as "there was no legal obligation on the parishioners either to provide churches or to pay an optional church-rate," and "as the laity had never shielded themselves under legal obligations," that the authorities of the Church should show such an example "was, to his mind, the most discouraging thing he had yet met with." But Mr. Ross, as he proceeded, became more and more indignant—

He thought the fact had not been sufficiently placed before the meeting, that it was intended that the funds of this Collegiate Church should provide for the whole spiritual wants of the parish; and he did not think that it had been sufficiently borne in mind that not one penny of those funds, to the present moment, had gone towards church extension; that there was the same number of clergymen retained (within one or two at least) when there were only 10,000 parishioners, as now, when the parish contained 200,000 people; that the revenues of the Collegiate Church had increased in an extraordinary degree; that those revenues were not used for the spiritual benefit of the parish, but for the private emolument of those holding fellowships or canonries in the Collegiate Church. What had caused that great increase in the revenues of that church? Why, population. As the population increased, the revenues of the church increased: but those revenues were appropriated, not to providing for the spiritual wants of the population, but for the private emolument of the gentlemen who were so fortunate as to hold high office in that church. And, with all this, to be told that they had no spiritual duty, was a perversion of the order of things as connected with the Christian church in a Christian community, that, he confessed, greatly astonished him.

Mr. Ross did not even scruple to comment on the oath taken in the Chapter-house, and expressed his astonishment that one of its conditions was, that the persons taking it were to "keep the secrets of the chapter." They are sworn to "keep the secrets of the Chapter-house, and to pursue the honour and profit of all the fellow collegians." The latter part of this oath, Mr. Ross emphatically remarked, "they had kept exceedingly well." He spoke of the zeal of Manchester in promoting the abolition of monopolies, and declared that "when we found within the doors of a Christian institution so monstrous a monopoly as that of which he had pointed out some of the effects, we should be decidedly wanting in our duty, if we did not, by some means, endeavour to reform it." This is earnest talk, and we shall be glad to learn that it leads to action. We fear there are Dissenters even within the sacred pale.

Mr. THOMAS CLEGG was evidently stimulated with what had been said. He spoke of those present as deprecating "pluralities of all kinds." The clergy, "like all other labourers, were worthy of their hire;" and he was sorry to see too many of them labouring "for a less sum yearly than some of our working cotton spinners, mechanics, and artisans." He regretted that the Rev. Canon Parkinson should still retain "emoluments which, he thought all must admit, would provide a sufficiency for many clergymen," although it does not appear that Mr. Clegg had ever been grieved in his spirit that Mr. Parkinson swallowed annually a sum sufficient for many clergymen, until that gentleman had accepted another piece of preferment, and was about to leave the parish. But Mr. Clegg attempted to show that the course he and his five fellow-labourers had taken was in strict accordance with the New Testament precepts in cases of delinquency in the Church. Mr. Parkinson had been remonstrated with privately, then by the church wardens, and now, "he might say, by the Church itself," and "he did think they had scriptural warrant for the course they had taken."

Mr. JOHN HARRISON said but little, or but little is reported. He growled threateningly; and, were we a comfortable rector, or canon, or other dignitary of the Church, we should prefer that this gentleman lived in another parish. Mr. Harrison said, that

Having habitually attended the Collegiate Church during the whole of his life, he had for some time past felt a great regret that the clergy there should confine their services to the pulpit. The congregation went once a week, and heard them in the pulpit, and saw or heard nothing else of them at any other time. That was very much to be regretted in a place like Manchester. Whether it was consistent with the legal provisions of the charter, or was a neglect of those provisions, he did not know, nor was it of much consequence; but the congregation certainly laboured under the disadvantage of never seeing the clergy of the Collegiate Church except in the pulpit.

This is but a short speech, and we have given the whole of it, but it is significant. Mr. Harrison is evidently making a hopeful progress.

But what has the public to complain about? (says our contemporary.) That a canon of the parish of Manchester is a pluralist? That a man takes the money salary of two offices or livings, the one being in Lancashire and the other in Cumberland, and that he does this whilst his incapacity to be in two places at once is notorious? The public has seen too much of this to complain about it. Not two livings, but four or six pieces of preferment have been, and now are, held by one person, in a multitude of instances, in this Church which, according to Mr. Clegg, is "one of the purest and choicest plants raised from the pure seed of the gospel." That which bishops and deans do every day, surely a canon may do and be blameless. These rich

livings, and this enjoyment of pluralities, are the baits which allure gentlemen to enter the Church. How can a man of birth and education be expected to choose the Church as a profession, if there be no high honours and emoluments to which he may aspire?

PARISH OF ST. ANDREW'S, HOLBORN, ABOVE BARS.—TITHES DISPUTE.

ROBINSON & PURDAY AND OTHERS.

(From a Correspondent.)

Notwithstanding the interposition of the Legislature, who, in 1835, in consequence of the large number of suits then pending relating to tithes, passed an act in order to prevent expensive litigation between rectors and their parishioners, the evils arising from which were supposed to be so injurious to the Church, that the bill passed with, comparatively speaking, no opposition, the clergy seem determined, by pursuing a system of dunning, threats, and legal intimidation, to enforce claims having no foundation but in their own insatiable rapacity.* As far back as the year 1823 or 1824, Mr. Gilbert Beresford, the then rector, proceeded before the magistrates against a number of his parishioners for "ancient money payments in lieu of tithes," when the decision was given against him: Mr. Sergeant Sellon delivering an elaborate judgment with respect to the parson's claim. This decision, however, by an appeal to the superior Courts, he managed to get reversed: subsequent to which the act (5 and 6 William IV.) referred to, was passed, which enacts "for the more easy recovery of small tithes," that no proceeding shall be had in the higher Courts; but, that all matters relating to defaulters of this kind shall be heard before and adjudicated upon by two magistrates, and by them alone, unless the rector's title is "bona fide" called in question.

The history of the case is this:—At the time Mr. Purday became an inhabitant of the parish, in the year 1830, there was still a litigation going on between the then rector, Gilbert Beresford, and certain of the parishioners, during which time no general application was made for tithe; but upon the termination of the suit in favour of the rector, the defendant in the present suit was cited before the magistrates for six years' claim (by the present decision proved, to be illegal) and adjudged to pay, which he did.

Upon the present plaintiff being inducted into the living, his first proceeding, by way of recommending himself to his parishioners, was to follow in the steps of his predecessor; accordingly, summonses were issued against them, and Mr. Purday stated before the magistrate (which proved perfectly true) that he had paid in his own wrong, in a former instance, six years of this impost, and he was determined not to submit a second time to such injustice. In reply to this protest, the magistrates emphatically said, "We don't go for more than two years!"

Mr. Purday also inquired how it was that his neighbours, many of them, right and left, behind and before him, did not and were not called upon to pay, believing, he said, that his own house was equally exempt? This, therefore, has been adjudged by the four barons to constitute a *bona fide* dispute, in the teeth of the act of William III., chap. 7, section 8, which expressly provides, that a dispute shall be "in writing," subscribed by the disputant, and he giving security for costs in the event of any "trial at law" going against him. This he did not do: his observations and objections before the magistrates being merely verbal, they overruled them, appealing to the plaintiff's solicitor to know if he demanded "orders;" to which the solicitor replied, "Most certainly;" and "orders" were accordingly granted; the Act of 5th and 6th William IV., cap. 74, expressly confining the adjudication of default, and the recovery of "small tithes," to the magistrates, and to them alone, forbidding an appeal to the superior courts, unless the rector's title was *bona fide* in dispute; which we interpret to mean, as before stated, by writing, subscribed by the disputant, and giving the required security, which never was done.

That the magistrates considered they were acting under the powers and directions given them by the statutes of William III. and IV., and that the "orders" granted were a final adjudication, "unless appeared against," is certain.

It is equally certain that the rector's solicitor viewed the matter in the same light; for, upon the defendants allowing the time specified in the "orders" to pass without making payment, each of them received the following letter:—

13, Bedford-row, 15th May, 1841.
SIR,—I regret to hear you have not hitherto thought proper to obey the magistrates' order, and pay the arrears of tithe due to the rector of this parish. I have, therefore, only now to inform you that, if the amount and costs is not paid by this day week to the collector, Mr. Daniel Buckle, 4, Upper Baker-street, Pentonville, I shall immediately, though with very great reluctance, apply to the magistrates for warrants of distress. I am, sir, your obedient servant,
THOMAS P. TURNER.

The recusants still remaining passive, waiting the fulfillment of this threat, more than a year was allowed to elapse, when a most subtle communication was made to them by Mr. Turner, containing the opinion of counsel, with a view of inveigling them into a "dispute." This, however, they allowed to pass unnoticed; and, some months after, fourteen bills in Chancery were filed against as many of the most respectable inhabitants of the Middlesex liberty of the parish for claims of from 10s. to 30s. Notice of the filing of these bills having been served upon them, two of the fourteen, from treating the matter lightly, were incarcerated, and a dread of the expenses of Chancery induced eight others to make terms with the rector, being put to a great expense for costs upon tithe demands for a very few shillings; having made this sacrifice to avoid a greater. No one will envy the rector or his attorney their gains. Mr. Purday and three others resolved then, with the co-operation of a number of the inhabitants, to make a public appeal against the wrong which a professed man of peace with a man of parchment sought to inflict upon them.

* A suit is now going on which has been heard in Vice-Chancellor Wigram's Court (Butlin v. Harris), and an issue tried at Northampton, upon which the defendant has moved for, and obtained, a rule for a new trial to set aside the verdict.

The result of this appeal to public opinion, at a meeting convened at the Mechanics' Institution (presided over by T. Wakley, Esq., M.P.) was virtually the abandonment of the four remaining suits; and no further steps were taken by the reverend plaintiff from 1842, till, "ruled on" by the defendants, the matter was brought before Vice-Chancellor Wigram, and by him referred to the four Barons of the Exchequer for their opinion, which we here subjoin:—

CASE.

1st. Whether at the time of filing the bill the plaintiff was entitled to institute a suit in equity for the recovery of the arrears of the annual payment of 10s. due to him from the defendant.

2nd. Whether the plaintiff would have been so entitled if the defendant had not disputed the plaintiff's title as aforesaid, or been summoned before the Justices, regard being had to the fact that more than two years' arrears were due at the time of filing the bill.

OPINION.

1st. We are of opinion that at the time of filing the Bill the plaintiff was not prevented by the statutes from instituting a suit in Equity for the recovery of the arrears of the annual payment of ten shillings, due to him from the defendant.

2nd. That the plaintiff would not have been so entitled if the defendant had not disputed the plaintiff's title, although more than two years' arrears were due.

E. M. ALDERSON. FREDERICK POLLOCK.
R. W. ROLFE. J. PARKE

13th November, 1846.

However, whether Mr. Purday has any appeal, or is assisted to carry the matter before the framers of the latter act, or the House of Lords, one most important point has been decided both for the parish, the other defendants, and the country at large,—that where an incumbent defers his claim for a series of years, and thereby throws a doubt himself upon his title, when a simple, easy, and inexpensive remedy has been given him by the Legislature, he shall not, by his own laches, be permitted to harass and annoy his parishioners with threats, intimidation, or expensive suits in equity or at law.

THE FREE AND ESTABLISHED CHURCHES OF SCOTLAND.

The commission of the two assemblies was held on Wednesday week in Edinburgh. The only topic of interest touched upon by the latter was the subject of Sunday trains. A report approving of their discontinuance was adopted by thirty-three to three.

At the commission of the Free Assembly Dr. Candlish read an report in regard to the constitution of the educational scheme of the church. The committee recommended the establishment of two classes of schools—first, congregational schools; and secondly, missionary ones. Of the first class a thousand would very soon become absolutely necessary: and the second should be established on the territorial system. Then there should be model and grammar schools for the purpose of bringing forward young men for teachers in connexion with the Normal schools of Edinburgh and Glasgow. As to the appointment of the teachers, the Doctor said that those for the missionary schools were to be appointed by presbyteries, those for the Normal schools by the general committee, and a superintendent of the whole by the General Assembly; the rates of salary for the teachers to be from £20 to £45. The Doctor in conclusion craved that the commission should agree to transmit the report to presbyteries for their approval. The motion was agreed to. Mr. Graham Speirs called attention to the destitution in the Highlands, and it was agreed that a collection should be made in all the churches on the first Sabbath of December, and also that a deputation of their number be appointed to wait upon her Majesty on the subject. Mr. Speirs then reported as to the parties that had refused sites for churches, and those who had granted them, on which occasion Mr. M. Crichton expressed himself dissatisfied with the manner in which the bill on this subject had been disposed of in last session of Parliament, and moved that another bill should be introduced by next session; which, however, he afterwards withdrew, in favour of a motion by Mr. Dunlop, expressive of continued confidence in the committee and its learned and talented convener. The Commission met in the evening, which was taken up with a long discussion on the merits of the present Sabbath question. Dr. Candlish was the principal speaker. "He could not," he said, "but look with regret and alarm on the exceedingly lax and loose views which were beginning to prevail as to the divine obligations of the Sabbath; and he was sorry to observe this particularly as regarded the members of sister churches. He was sorry to notice that Dissenters, who used to be proverbial for the strictness of their views in regard to the sacredness of the Sabbath, should in these days be found holding such lax views in regard to it. He agreed with Mr. Paul in regarding the statements uttered yesterday in the Town Council, as the veriest sophisms; and he would not deign to bandy arguments in logic with such men. The sophisms were so palpable and gross that a man with half an intellectual eye could detect them." A resolution, conveying the thanks of the Commission to the directors; and, at the same time, enjoining Presbyteries to watch over the matter of Sabbath observance in their respective districts, was unanimously passed.

The sustentation fund of the Free Church of Scotland, by which its ministers are maintained, shows a decline of nearly £1,000, compared with the six months of last year. [Is this owing to the course they have pursued with regard to American slavery?]

DR. THOMSON AND THE BIBLE MONOPOLY.
(From the Manchester Times.)

On Tuesday evening, a meeting was held at Rusholme-road chapel, Manchester, to receive the Rev. Dr. Thomson, of Coldstream, and hear from him the results of the working of his plans. There was a very large attendance, including George Hadfield, Esq., Mr. Webster, the Rev. Dr. Halley, the Rev. Mr. Rhys Stephen, the Rev. J. L. Poore, and the Rev. Mr. Lee. Mr.

Webster (one of the deacons of the chapel) was called to the chair.

The Rev. Dr. THOMSON then addressed the meeting at considerable length, adducing many proofs to show that his schemes had not been at all chimerical; and mentioned that Bibles of different sizes were to be had all equally cheap. (A gentleman asked if they could be legally obtained in England?) Dr. Thomson replied, that technically, or according to law, they could not be obtainable in England, but they had found their way here, and he saw no objection; for the question was, in the language of the apostles, whether they should obey God or man [hear, hear]. Dr. Thomson concluded by showing the spirit which animated the English monopolist printers (dreading the effects of his establishment in Coldstream) to oppose him; they were, in fact, using every effort to put him down, and he called upon the people of Manchester, as Free-traders, to give him their support.

The Rev. Dr. HALLEY then moved a resolution, recognising the deep sense of obligation the meeting had of Dr. Thomson's arduous exertions to promote the reduction of the price of Bibles. He (Dr. Halley) could have liked his Bibles better without the royal arms upon the title, and could have wished the monopoly had been abolished in every sense of the word, and not that they should be limited to the printing of King James's Bible, but have the power of issuing a better translation, if it could be obtained.

The Rev. D. R. STEPHEN, of the Baptist chapel, Grosvenor-street, seconded the motion.

GEORGE HADFIELD, Esq., supported the resolution. He said, he had expressed his own opinion as a lawyer, on Dr. Thomson's former visit, that the patent of the Queen's printer, if taken before a jury, would not be worth the parchment it was written upon; and, no doubt, if he had received encouragement from Dr. Thomson then, he should, by this time, have been immersed in law upon the subject. However, Dr. Thomson, with his own energy and enterprise, had brought his practical knowledge to bear upon the subject, and here we had, already, the thing as good as accomplished, and Bibles could be had from Scotland (for the patentees on this side the Tweed dared not interfere to prevent it) at a price far below what Dr. Thomson ever anticipated himself. He (Mr. Hadfield) had been a member of the Bible Society for many years, and was one of the oldest subscribers in this town; and he was astounded when he thought of the immense amount of money they had wasted in supplying the poor with Bibles, which, if this monopoly had been abolished, might have been saved [hear, hear]. Dr. Thomson's name ought to be associated with those of Richard Cobden and Rowland Hill; and he did not know but that, religiously speaking, if a man might choose which of the names he might have, Dr. Thomson's name would be the greatest honour [hear, hear]. The motion was carried unanimously.

The Rev. T. G. LEE, of Pendleton, moved the next resolution.

The Rev. J. L. POORE seconded it, and said that he had himself sent £60 worth of Dr. Thomson's new Bibles in one day to various Sunday-schools in Manchester. The idea of a testimonial to Dr. Thomson had been started, and if Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright deserved testimonials (and high testimonials they did deserve), so also still more did Dr. Thomson [great applause]. The resolution was carried unanimously.

Dr. THOMSON briefly observed, that the idea of a testimonial to him had been started at Liverpool: he did not expect it; but, if anything of the kind was raised, all he would say was, that it should go in still further reducing the Bible, and carrying out the object for which he had so long devoted his greatest efforts [hear, hear].

We understand that, after the close of the meeting, different sums were subscribed, and the Rev. Dr. Halley was the first to request that his name should be put on the list of subscribers.

A meeting of a similar character has been held at Wigan. Resolutions in favour of the Rev. Dr. Thomson's plans, and in support of a proposal to raise a Sunday-school memorial of his exertions, by a donation of one penny from each teacher and scholar in the kingdom, were passed. A Committee was also formed to further the Coldstream Company's welfare, composed of all the evangelical denominations in the borough.

THE SEE OF MANCHESTER.—It is said that the two Welsh sees are to be preserved, and that the see of Manchester is nevertheless to be erected immediately. It is in confirmation of this report that the see of St. Asaph has already been filled up by the translation of the late Bishop of Man, and that the see of Man is also just filled.—*Guardian*.

"QUOD SACRA" CHURCHES.—The important case of the Glasgow Church-building Society's churches came up for final judgment in the first division of the Court of Session, when the Lord Ordinary's interlocutor against the alienation of those places of worship from the Established Church of Scotland was confirmed, and expenses again awarded against the Free Church parties, who were pursuers. With the exception of Lord Jeffrey, who took a different view of the question from his brethren, their lordships were unanimous in their judgment.

LADY HEWLEY'S CHARITY.—The commission for the examination of witnesses in this suit has been adjourned from Newcastle to Alnwick, where it is now sitting. Several of the ministers and members of the Relief and other churches have already been examined. Many of the witnesses were persons of great age.—*Sunderland Herald*.

SALE OF GOODS SEIZED FOR CHURCH-RATES AT DONCASTER.—On Thursday week, the goods taken from the house of Mr. Cooper, for non-payment of a church-rate, were sold by auction. Previous to the sale, the ministers of the Church, invested with a commission not "apostolical," waited on him to inform him that he might have his goods back if he would pay the rate and costs! The books, which had been taken last year, and for which no account had been rendered, nor even yet rendered, were also given up by the first purchaser and

re-sold, realising 10s. 6d.; so that there must be a loss to the person who had retained them, as, when first sold by private treaty, there was a balance of several shillings, which had been offered to Mr. Cooper by the chief agent, but which Mr. Cooper refused to receive without a written account of the sale. The odium of these seizures on behalf of the dominant sect, revelling in the nation's wealth—the obnoxious mode of carrying them out, joined with great irregularity, which has been treated very leniently by Mr. Cooper—and the consequent exposure of such practices, have evidently had some effect in causing the return of the books for re-sale, by the original purchaser.—*Leeds Mercury*.

REMARKABLE AND LATEST PERVERSION TO ROMANISM.—We believe we may state with confidence that a metropolitan daily morning newspaper [the *Morning Post*, we suppose] is about to pass into the hands of the Romanists, and that a distinguished Roman Catholic peer, resident in a midland county, will be one of the principal proprietors.—*Church and State Gazette*. [The *Post* ridicules the statement].

SUNDAY TRADING IN LAMBETH.—We have received a representation, signed by 186 shopmen and others, residing in the New-cut and Lambeth-walk, on the subject of Sunday trading in that neighbourhood. They describe the hardship to which they are exposed in being called upon, after eighteen or twenty hours uninterrupted toil on Saturday, to resume business at an early hour on Sunday morning. Their labours are continued to the middle of the day; and they state, that not only is the time left to their disposal scarcely sufficient to restore them from fatigue, but that, after being closely engaged in business during the week, they are deprived of the comforts and privileges which attend the cessation from labour enjoyed by most other classes, while they are obstructed in the discharge of their higher obligations. They refer to the enormous traffic carried on during the whole of Sunday morning; and express their approbation of the bill introduced last session by Mr. C. Hindley, and read a first time; the provision of which they describe as exclusively confined to the selling of goods on the Sabbath day, exceptions being made to prevent any real inconvenience to the public generally, or the poor in particular. In conclusion, they intimate that their employers, and the great body of tradesmen throughout the metropolis, are co-operating with the parochial authorities in promoting the object in view.—*Times*.

OPENING OF THE PORTS.—A requisition to the Mayor to call a meeting on this subject is now in course of signature, and has already received the names of the late Mayor, most of the leading manufacturers, many members of the town council, and the principal tradesmen and shopkeepers. Another requisition is also in course of signature among the working classes.—*Leicester Mercury*.

A NEW TEMPERANCE HALL was opened in Liverpool on Monday. It has been raised by the exertions and perseverance of a number of working men.

MARRIAGES AND CHRISTENINGS WITHOUT FEES.—On Sunday, in consequence of the authorities of the parish of St. John, Clerkenwell, London, having discovered that numbers of the poorer classes inhabiting that district, were living together without regard to either of the above ceremonies, and bringing up their children in the same way, notice was given—their excuse being that they were unable to pay the fees—that on Advent and Whit Sundays christenings would be performed gratuitously, and marriages on the first Mondays in December and May.

ANOTHER DREADFUL EXPLOSION of fire-damp happened on Tuesday morning. On the workmen's entering Mr. Hargreaves's coal-mine at Euston Burgh, near Preston, the air in one of the workings fired; seven persons were killed—four men, a woman, and two girls; six others were hurt, two dangerously. About forty other miners were in the pit, but they escaped with a fright. Some people blame the fireman, as wanting in proper knowledge of the nature of the works: on the other hand, he declares that the men entered the works before he certified that the pit was safe for them to descend. The latter view was taken by a coroner's jury, who, on Thursday, returned a verdict of "accidental death."

HEALTH OF TOWNS.—We are glad to learn from the answer of the Secretary of State to a deputation from the Health of Towns' Association, on Friday last, that it is proposed to bring forward a general sanitary measure early in the approaching session. Sir G. Grey further assured the deputation, that the metropolis, Ireland, and Scotland, were omitted from Lord Lincoln's bill, only that they might be made the subject of special acts, with machinery adapted to the peculiar circumstances of each of the three.—*Daily News*.

RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION TO RAILWAY LABOURERS.—Mr. Peto, the railway contractor, with a view to inculcate a better feeling among the labourers employed on his various contracts, has engaged a number of religious teachers, who visit the men daily, and during the time set apart for meals they read the Bible to the labourers, and in the evening teach them to read and write. The plan has been found to answer admirably. There are two missionaries on the Norwich and Cambridge line, two on the Southampton and Dorchester line, and several others on Mr. Peto's other contracts.

THE CASE OF MR. LEMPRIERE.—It will be seen from our brief report of the proceedings in this case, that Mr. Lempriere was liberated from imprisonment by the exercise of Her Majesty's prerogative, and not by the offended majesty of law. So far as Mr. Lempriere is individually concerned, he has neither redress for the past, nor security for the future. If he refuse to take an oath, he may be imprisoned again to-morrow.—*Christian Penny Record*.

THE WILDERSPIN TRIBUTE-FUND now amounts to £1,300, of which Manchester has contributed about £400. The sum of £2,000 has been fixed upon as necessary to accomplish the two-fold object of placing Mr. Wilderspin in circumstances of ease and comfort for the remainder of his life, and of ensuring a provision for his family.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE FIRST AND SECOND REFORMATION.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—The letter from Dr. Thomas Price, which appeared in the *Nonconformist* of the 11th inst., calling the attention of the Dissenters of this empire to the constitution and claims of the British Anti-state-church Association, I rejoice to find has appeared in the columns of the *Patriot*, and also in several of the influential provincial papers. By this means the existence of that Association must be brought prominently before the notice of the majority of the Dissenting community. A thoughtful perusal of this excellent letter will, I trust, lead many to inquire into the merits of that Association who may have hitherto been ignorant of its existence; and prompt to decisive and cordial co-operation, many who may have viewed its commencement and proceedings with suspicion or utter indifference.

That ignorance of its existence, as well as unacquaintance with its mode of operation, should be found amongst the members of Dissenting churches, I have instances of within these few days; and these in connexion with metropolitan Nonconforming churches.

Some friends, to whom I have spoken lately on the subject, have sought to justify their neglect of the claims of the Association, or their avowed opposition to it, by denouncing it as violent and abusive; yet confessing they have neither attended one of its meetings, nor read a report or tract published by it.

But, I apprehend, the greater number of those professed Nonconformists who stand aloof and withhold their support from the Association, are not ignorant of its claims; they have a passive sympathy with the object at which it aims, yet their sympathies do not become active, from a presumption that the scheme is not practicable. This is, in perhaps most instances, their chief difficulty. This they deem a sufficient reason for withholding their adhesion to the plan of the Association for protesting against all State establishments of religion. They argue, not that the scheme is wrong, but that it may prove to be a failure, inasmuch as it would raise a formidable opposition, and the opponents of the voluntary principle are many and powerful. And it is neither desirable nor agreeable to provoke derision and contempt. It is not pleasant to be in a "ridiculous minority." These consider the active promoters of the scheme of the Association as well-meaning, but "impracticable" men. To this class of Dissenters allow me, through the medium of your columns, to recommend an attentive perusal of D'Aubigné's "History of the Reformation." They may (if they do not allow their prejudices or fears to stand in the way) gather instructive and encouraging lessons from the teachings of that interesting and spirit-stirring record of the church's history.

Had many of our silent Nonconformists lived in the days of the commencement of Luther's work, would they not have trembled lest, whilst having sympathy with him in the object to which he had consecrated his life, he should, by his boldness, increase the opposition of the hostile powers? We find many instances of this in his history. For a long period he was, indeed, almost alone. Where shall such faith be found now? Has it died with him? He lived and wrought in a full consciousness of the greatness and righteousness of his object, and his sense of duty, as well as of his own integrity, overcame his fear of obstacles and of consequences. Whilst Erasmus and his cautious companions shrunk under the influence of their fears, and their conflicting sense of duty and of danger led them to exclaim, "It is dangerous to speak, and it is dangerous to be silent," Luther was, by the grace of God, enabled to pursue his onward course. Most of the few friends who had gathered around the banner of the reformer, from sympathy with his principles and doctrines, were ever ready to express their fears for his success: and, while they rejoiced in those instances of his success that came to their knowledge, "they rejoiced with trembling." How often did they seek to restrain his energies—to repress that zeal for the truth which led him so fearlessly to encounter error in its strongest holds! His warmest supporters were not of the ecclesiastical order—it was the "common people" who "hailed him with shouts of joy." Had not his regard to duty been stronger than his reference to results, humanly speaking, the Reformation had not taken place. "Bernard Adelman, the canon of Augsburg," who had a passive sympathy with Luther, writing to a friend, says "I much fear that the worthy man will be, after all, obliged to yield to the avarice and power of the partisans of indulgences." Let him, without losing time, seek the support of the princes—let him beware of tempting God—for one must be void of common-sense not to see the imminent danger in which he stands.

"The celebrated historian, Albert Kranz, was lying on his death-bed at Hamburg, when the theses of Luther were brought to him. 'Thou hast truth on thy side, brother Martin!' exclaimed the dying man; 'but thou wilt not succeed. Poor monk, get thee to thy cell, and cry, O God, have mercy on me.' Not only did many of Luther's friends conceive fears from his proceeding, several expressed to him their disapproval. The Bishop of Brandenburg, grieved at seeing so important a controversy originating in his own diocese, would have wished to stifle it. He resolved to set about it with mildness. 'I find,' said he to Luther, by the Abbot of Levin, 'nothing in these theses concerning the indulgences at variance with the Catholic faith. I even myself condemn those impudent proclamations (referring to the proceedings of the noted friar, Tetzel), but for the love of peace, and out of regard to your bishop, cease to write on this subject.' In his order, and even in his convent of Wittenberg, Luther met with disapprobation. The prior and the sub-prior were frightened at the outcry made by Tetzel and all his companions. They went to brother Martin's cell, alarmed and trembling: 'Pray,' said they, 'do not bring disgrace upon your order. The other orders, and especially the Dominicans, are already transported with joy to think that they are not alone in their obloquy.' Luther was affected by these words; but, soon recovering himself, he answered, 'Dear fathers! if the thing is not of God, it will come to nought; if it is, let it go forward.' The prior and the sub-prior were silent. 'The thing is going forward still,' adds Luther, after having related this circumstance, 'and if it please God, it will go on better and better to the end.' 'And,' continues the eloquent historian of the Reformation, from whose intensely interesting work I have so largely quoted, 'Luther had many other attacks of a very different kind to endure. At Erfurth he was accused of violence and pride in the manner in which he condemned the opinions of others; a reproach to which those persons are generally exposed who have that strength of conviction which is produced by the word of God.' How sorely was Luther's faith tried! How many temptations to withdraw from a contest, which seemed likely to result only in repulse and defeat! How often disappointed in those from whom he looked for aid and had been accustomed to receive, words of encouragement. 'He was deceived in his expectations. He had expected to see the heads of the church, the most distinguished philosophers of the nation, publicly

join him; but it was quite otherwise. A word of encouragement hastily bestowed at the outset was all that the more favourably disposed afforded him; and many of those whom he had regarded with most veneration were loud in their condemnation of him. He felt himself alone in the church; alone against Rome; alone at the foot of that ancient and formidable citadel, whose foundations reached to the bowels of the earth, and whose walls, ascending to the skies, appeared to deride the presumptuous stroke which his hand had aimed against them.'

"If Luther had only been actuated by human passions, he would have yielded to his fears; his disappointments and misgivings would have smothered the fire that had been kindled in his soul, and he would only have shed a transient light upon the church, as had been done before by so many zealous and pious men whose names have been handed down to posterity. But now God's time was come; the work was not to be arrested; the enfranchisement of the church must be accomplished."

I have been led to these lengthy quotations, from a full persuasion of their applicability to present events, and to that work to which the Christian church is now called, by the clear indication of duty, and the voice of Providence. With a few extracts from other works of M. D'Aubigné, and one or two brief remarks, it is my intention to conclude this appeal to the consciences and judgment of all professing Christians, and to Nonconformists in particular; respectfully and with all earnestness urging upon them a thoughtful consideration of the claims of the Lord Jesus to be sole King and Lawgiver to his church.

"At the close of that long and stormy night (referring to the age preceding the Reformation) appears the Reformation, which seems as though it would restore the primitive independence; but it is so engrossed with the Pope as to forget the State. It emancipates the Church, so far as doctrine is concerned; but leaves to a future period, her entire emancipation as to polity and discipline. Nevertheless, the Reformers caught a glimpse of the truth, and in many cases proclaimed it." "Yes, the independence of the State and the Church, that grand political and ecclesiastical reform, was, at the period of the Reformation, devolved upon later times. Those times are now come. Then, political circumstances stood in its way; now, political circumstances force it upon us." "The independence of the State and the Church must be the reformation of the nineteenth century—a reformation at once Catholic and Protestant, Monarchical and Republican, political and moral."

It seems fitting, that the historian of the first reformation should supply the materials which are to become the precursor of the second reformation.

Let us carefully ponder the teachings of history, and we shall find that most of the objections which are raised, by good though erring men amongst us, against the operations of the British Anti-state-church Association, bear a striking resemblance to those that were urged more than 300 years ago, against the Reformer and his work, and are in many cases the result of similar limited views of the great requirement of the age—humble, faithful, and earnest devotedness to duty—seeking wisdom and strength from Him who "giveth liberally, and upbraideth not." Let us listen to the voice of duty, and of Providence, saying to us, "Go forward," and may we, each and all, always be ready to obey. With the humble hope that these lines will, in some degree, promote the cause the British Anti-state-church Association contemplates,

I am, Dear Sir, yours, with cordial esteem,
London, Nov. 23rd, 1846. T. I. Y.

OATHS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—Having observed in your valuable paper, from time to time, several instances of persons having suffered in their pockets for refusing to take a judicial oath, or in their consciences for having taken one, I would beg to raise the question:—What identity is there between the oath or the swearing forbidden in the New Testament, and the common judicial oath now in use? If there is such identity, I cannot see it, and should be most glad to be shown it. I do not know a more suitable medium for the discussion of the question than your paper; and I hope some one of those who feel their consciences aggrieved, touching this matter, will favour me, and many others of your readers, who are, doubtless, interested in it, with an exposition of the question. Mind you do not mistake me: I think that, what is called judicial swearing, or a judicial oath, is a most idle and blasphemous thing, and most vicious and demoralising in its effects; and I do most heartily wish that a simple affirmation, or something else, should be substituted for it. But as I have generally understood that the conscientious persons who object taking an oath do so because it is forbidden in the word of God, I should wish any reply to be confined to the question of identity as before stated. It is too much to expect that your valuable space should be taken up with any mere description of the blasphemy of taking the Lord's name so heedlessly in vain, or any other of the odious features of the present oath. These are sufficiently obvious to all well-informed persons. If any one can show why the present form is called "an oath," or "swearing," it might tend to throw some light upon the question. A. B.

EDUCATION IN WALES.—The commissioners lately appointed by Government to inquire into, and report upon, the existing state of education in Wales are prosecuting their labours with all diligence. It is anticipated that the report will be ready for presentation at the commencement of the ensuing session; and no doubt is entertained that it will be full and comprehensive, embracing a large amount of statistical and local information. The inquiry will not only be conducted throughout the whole of the principality, but will extend to the hills and mining districts of Monmouthshire, where a vast proportion of the miners and labourers speak the Welsh language. Mr. J. C. Symons, barrister, the commissioner for the midland and part of the mineral districts, has been making his inquiries in Aberystwith, and neighbourhood. Mr. Henry Vaughan Johnson has nearly completed the circuit of the island of Anglesey, having visited Beaumaris, Llangefui, Holyhead, Bodderon, &c. He has now commenced his labours in the adjoining county of Carnarvon. Mr. R. R. W. Lingen, of Balliol-college, commissioner for the south, has been prosecuting his inquiries throughout the various towns in Carmarthenshire, and will shortly extend them into the other counties in his district.—*Times*.

STIPENDIARY MAGISTRATES IN THE METROPOLIS.—The magistrates of the thirteen police courts in the metropolis are paid £1,000 a year, and the chief magistrate £1,200. There are twenty-two at £1,000 a year, and one at £1,200, making £23,200 a year paid in the salaries of magistrates.

THE SUNDAY TRAIN QUESTION.—It seems that the number of directors in favour of stopping the trains on the Edinburgh and Glasgow Railway is but four! The facts, we understand, are these:—"The seven English directors were unanimous in favour of the continuance of the trains, but consented to leave the matter to the eight Scotch, as better knowing the public wishes, and accordingly stood entirely aloof. When the matter came before the eight Scotch directors, it was found that they were equally divided as to the propriety of stopping the trains; but as four of them were very eager to make the 'experiment,' the others (not very wisely or justifiably as we think) gave way. So the fact is, that the number of gentlemen who have undertaken forcibly to regulate the Sunday movements of the inhabitants of Edinburgh and Glasgow, and all places adjacent and interjacent, is but four."—*Glasgow Post*.

We (*Fife Herald*) are rejoiced to state that, at a meeting of the Cupar Council, held on Friday evening, the subject of the Sunday trains on the Edinburgh and Glasgow Railway was discussed, and a motion condemning the stopping of the trains was put and carried by a majority of ten to six. The Provost (Robert Nicol, Esq.), a Free Churchman, supported the original motion in a manly and spirited speech.—The Glasgow memorial, signed by six hundred of the principal commercial men of that city, was forwarded to the Board on Tuesday. An answer was returned, in which the directors say:—

On the subject of the propriety of this course, the directors cannot be expected to enter; they would only beg to remind you that the opinion of the public is much divided upon it; and, if the directors may judge from the number of addresses and signatures received by them, the majority approve of the present management.

The directors beg to thank the deputation for the conciliatory manner in which the address was presented, and they hope that all future discussion of this question may be conducted in the same spirit; but they deprecate the Edinburgh and Glasgow Railway being made the battle-field of what is really a large and national question. They trust that every railway in Scotland which does not run Sunday trains may be included in its consideration.

EARTHQUAKE IN SCOTLAND.—A smart shock of an earthquake has been experienced over a pretty extensive district in the centre of Scotland. About midnight on Tuesday last, Crieff, Perth, Dundee, Cupar-Fife, and Dollar, had all felt the shock, which appears to have occurred almost simultaneously throughout the extensive tract of country which comprehends these towns.—*Scotsman*.—The *Perth Courier* contains the following account of the visitation:—"The shock was of greater intensity and longer duration than any remembered. The state of the atmosphere at the time was calm and beautifully clear. Early on the previous morning a very heavy rain had fallen, which had cleared the air and softened the temperature, and the following day was unseasonably fine and mild; the thermometer standing about fifty-two degrees. At nine o'clock in the evening it had fallen to forty-two degrees—the barometer indicating 29.50 inches; the greatest cold during the night was thirty-six degrees, and the barometer slightly inclined to rise, standing next morning at 29.61 inches. The feeling of individuals during the shock depended greatly on their situation. It is most generally described as being rather tremulous than undulating, and in high tenements heavy articles of furniture were violently shaken, bells were rung, and crockery-ware overturned. Every family was alarmed, and many rushed out to the streets, under the impression that their houses were falling. Such as were walking at the time, describe the ground as shaken under their feet, much like the tremulous motion in steam-boats. The duration of the shock, by all accounts, must have been from fifteen to twenty seconds, although the fears of many naturally led them to think it longer. It extended as far north as our accounts yesterday reached, and along the line of the Grampians it seems to have been particularly severe."

SUCCESS OF THE EARLY-CLOSING MOVEMENT.—A Dublin correspondent sends us the following gratifying statement:—"Knowing the deep interest you take in the Early-closing Movement, and for the encouragement of those who are endeavouring to forward the good work, I wish to make generally known the result of its working in Dublin. In the spring of 1844, the large retail drapery establishments, in which from eighty to 130 assistants are employed, entered into an agreement to close at seven o'clock throughout the year, with the exception of Saturdays, on which they were to close one hour later; so practical, and satisfactory, has been the working of this arrangement, that they have now come to the resolution of closing at six o'clock from the first of December during the winter months, and at seven o'clock on Saturdays. Here, Sir, I assure you we are satisfied with the 'workings of willinghood' without the aid of acts of Parliament in matters of this nature."—On the 5th of October, the principal tradesmen of Chatham, Rochester, Strood, and Brompton, commenced closing their shops at eight o'clock for the winter months. The young men have formed an association, not only to secure the continuance of the privilege, but also for the purpose of mental improvement. The result is, that upwards of 100 have joined the Mechanics' Institution.—Vigorous efforts are being made by the Rochdale Early-closing Association to abridge the hours of labour in the retail and wholesale houses, and a general meeting of the inhabitants of Rochdale will shortly be held on the subject.—The shopkeepers of Barnsley commenced, on Monday last, to close their shops at eight o'clock at night, during the winter season.

PUBLIC ABATTOIRS OR SLAUGHTERING-HOUSES.—It is proposed to form a company for the purpose of erecting slaughtering-houses for cattle, sheep, and pigs, on the north, south, east, and west of London, at such localities as may be contiguous to the existing railways, and adjacent to established markets, and on the most extensive scale, so as to afford ample accommodation to the trade, the dealers, and the public. The metropolis and the suburban roads will thus be effectually cleared of the numerous droves of cattle and sheep which crowd and stop the thoroughfares, producing those constantly recurring scenes of terror and frightful accidents of which the public so loudly complain.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

THE CIVIL WAR IN PORTUGAL.

The Lisbon mail of the 20th has been received. The intelligence is checked. Both the Royalists and the Rebels claimed successes: on the whole, the most decided advantages have been obtained by the Queen's forces; but the balance of hope still seems to lie on the other side. The Visconde de Setubal had been obliged to raise the siege of Evora, after firing at it for days without effect. An engagement took place at Chaves, in the North, on the 17th instant, between the insurgents under the Visconde Sa da Bandeira, and the Queen's troops under the Baron Casal, in which the revolted forces were beaten, with a loss of one or two hundred killed and wounded; and afterwards, two regiments deserted to the Queen's side. It was supposed that Casal would march onward and attack Oporto. The blockade of that place was in suspense; bad weather having obliged the war-ships to put into Vigo, and merchant-ships made active use of the truce. It was reported, as the mail left Lisbon, that the Conde das Antas had attacked the Duque de Saldanha's advanced posts; but the result was not known. The Duke of Palmella, since his removal from the Portuguese ministry, has tendered to the Queen his resignation of the dignity of councillor of state.

FRANCE.

It appears, from the private correspondence of the daily papers, that, immediately on the receipt of the official intelligence relative to the annexation of Cracow, M. Guizot proposed a joint protest on the part of England and France. The result of that suggestion is told by the Paris correspondent of the *Chronicle* :—

The noble lord's answer produced a very painful impression, not only on account of the substance, but the form of the answer. Lord Palmerston declared at once, and in the most positive terms, that the French Cabinet must expect no simultaneous and united action between France and England, in respect to the affairs of Cracow. Some members of the Cabinet are said to have expressed dissatisfaction that M. Guizot should have made the first advances towards England, or have been the first to ask Lord Palmerston to act in conjunction with France, without having, in the first instance, got some assurance that the proposition would be well received. The members of the Cabinet differed, also, greatly as to the steps now to be taken by France with respect to the northern Powers. M. Guizot was of opinion that France should, at once, and in a strong and energetic protest, assume an imposing attitude: but his opinion was not received with that unanimity among his colleagues to which he has been accustomed. M. Duchâtel, and some other members of the Ministry, are said to have expressed their opinion that a protest would be of no use, and would be only ridiculous if not followed by some more active demonstration; and that any real demonstration might lead to a general war. They were, therefore, of opinion that it was better not to be in too great haste in the matter, and that they ought to wait to see what would be done by England. The Council is said to have broken up without coming to any resolution on the point.

The French protest was dispatched from Paris on Friday.

The belief is daily gaining ground, that M. Guizot cannot continue much longer in office, not only on account of the discredit thrown on his foreign policy by the present position of France as regards England and the northern powers, but also on account of dissensions known to exist in the Cabinet. In the event of the dissolution of the present Cabinet, Count Molé will necessarily be called to form a new Ministry. He is, in fact, the only man in France at the present moment in a position to assume that difficult and responsible duty. It was understood that, however loud in his declamation against M. Guizot, M. Thiers would not enter into the Ministry by which the present Cabinet would be succeeded, but would "bide his time."

Count Molé arrived in Paris on Saturday morning from his chateau at Champlatreux. His intention was to have remained at his country seat till the middle of next month; but the aspect of the political world has altered his purpose. Immediately after his arrival Count Molé had a long interview with the Count de Montalivet, who is at the head of the department of the King's civil list, and who is known to be fully in his Majesty's confidence. Before seeing Count Molé, Count Montalivet had an interview with M. Duchâtel, the Minister of the Interior.

POLAND.

The *Rhenish Observer*, an official Prussian journal, publishes a letter written at Vienna by a person in the employment of Prince Metternich, which states that "Russia has given a *carte blanche* to Austria with regard to Cracow, but we may expect shortly to see the incorporation of Moldavia and Wallachia with Russia."

The *Augsburgh Gazette* of the 25th November contains the following letter from Vienna:—"The intelligence from Galicia gives rise to a great deal of uneasiness. The presence of the great number of troops has increased the scarcity. Three more regiments are to be stationed in Galicia. The occupation of the country is as complete as possible."

It would appear by private letters from Vienna that the incorporation of Cracow with Austria did not take place without a strong opposition on the part of several members of the Aulic Cabinet. Count Kollowrath, finding himself in a minority on that important question, had tendered his resignation, with the firm determination to retire from public life. That resolution had produced the greatest sensation at Vienna.

THE WAR IN CAFFRELAND.

The Apollo has brought advices from the Cape to Oct. 7. The most recent advices obtained from the frontier state, that the British force had not yet accomplished any particular advantage, although the number of men, including farmers, under arms, was full 10,000. It is asserted, on the other hand, that the Caffres, almost from the commencement of the war, had been eminently successful. They had captured our baggage at the outset; and, but for a subsequent gallant little "affair," in which the dragoons had the only opportunity yet afforded of showing their superiority at close-quarter fighting, the whole of the eastern province, it is

said, would have been at the mercy of the Caffres. The Caffres had made several offers of capitulation, but the Governor wanted his own terms complied with, which were, that the insurgents should give up all their arms, and restore the cattle they had stolen. The English boundaries were also to be extended.

MASSACRE OF THE NESTORIAN CHRISTIANS.

Letters from Constantinople, of the 9th instant, contain shocking accounts of a massacre of Nestorian Christians, in Kurdistan, by Bedr Khan Bey. Anticipating no resistance, Bedr Khan marched into the country of the Nestorians, divided his army into small bands, and sacked thirty-six villages. These bands, dispersing, fell upon the Nestorian villages in the districts of Tiary, Tehoma, Diss, and Albagh, and murdered in cold blood men, women, and children, and even infants at the breast; the Christians who offered the least resistance being (according to the injunctions of their barbarous chief) put to the most cruel and refined modes of torture and death. None were suffered to escape, and even if they did, it was to be subsequently hunted down like wild beasts. When no living creature remained for the demons to glut their vengeance upon, they burnt and destroyed the very habitations of these unfortunate Christians. It is calculated that several thousands have already perished.

We give the following details as communicated by the correspondent of the *Morning Chronicle*:—"Two of the bishops of the Nestorians, if not more, were impaled, and several of the priests. What impaling is, I suppose your readers to understand; but that was not the worst torture that was inflicted. Children were torn from their mothers, some from their mothers' breasts, and in presence of their mothers, who were obliged, screaming, to look on, put in the most shocking manner to death. The mothers afterwards were sacrificed. The youth of both sexes underwent outrages which cannot be mentioned, before their throats, in disgust and satiety, were cut. The pen refuses to record more of these atrocities, though I might go on, and allude to abominations of cruelty, and worse than cruelty, which call for a retribution as nearly equal to their bestial ruthlessness in severity as can be inflicted. Three thousand of the Nestorians have perished in this massacre, on the lowest calculation. The most extensive slaughter took place at a large village, or township, called Bias, where Bedr Khan Bey was himself present. Here the two bishops were impaled, and from this place was sent the three hundred heads (*pickled*) to the Pacha of Moussoul, with the insulting message, that if the Porte presumed to molest the sender, he would send to Constantinople, instead of Nestorian, Turks' heads enough to make a pyramid."

"The whole mountain district of Kurdistan, on the Turkish side, is at this moment filled with houseless famished wanderers, hiding themselves in dens and caves, under all the worst circumstances and guises of misery, from their pursuers. Bedr Khan Bey swore, before he started on his expedition, with all the solemnities of the Mahomedan creed, before two imams, that he would exterminate the whole Nestorian people; and all of them who have not strength to reach Persia will certainly experience the full realisation of this oath."

"Whilst these things were happening, a council, over which the Nestorian Patriarch, who has escaped from Moussoul, presided, was held at a town called, if I recollect right, Artchy, one of the principal Nestorian settlements. Here it was determined that, as resistance was vain, the whole people of the Nestorians should emigrate without an hour's delay, into Persia, where a numerous body of their countrymen are settled on the banks of the lake of Ouroumiah. The execution of this design was, however, difficult, perilous, and disastrous. The fugitives were obliged to leave behind them all their property; most of them crossed the mountains in straggling, frightened, wretched bands. But one corps of emigrants, stronger than the others, commanded, I am told, by the Patriarch, was attacked on their passage by the soldiers of Bedr Khan Bey. After an obstinate conflict, in which many fell on both sides, the Nestorians gained the victory."

"The Porte promises the French and English ambassadors to punish Bedr Khan, but is powerless; and it is not improbable that this outrage is provoked by intrigues of the Porte with the Nestorian Patriarch, to undermine the contumacious chief, who is too strong to be crushed. Bedr Khan Bey can at any time collect a force of 40,000 men. He is virtual sovereign, indeed, of the whole mountain district. In the winter season it is impossible to attack him among the mountain fastnesses, and even in the summer he would always have great superiority over regular troops."

In a postscript the writer adds—"Letters from Bagdad, I have just learnt, mention the report of a battle between Bedr Khan Bey and Tayer, Pasha of Moussoul, and that the latter has sustained a complete defeat. I believe it is at present the full purpose of the Turkish Cabinet to subjugate this great Kurd chief, for matters have been driven so far against him that there is no hope of attaching him cordially to the interests of the Porte; he is, therefore, regarded here somewhat in the same light as was Mehemet Ali Pasha of Egypt before he became so thoroughly independent."

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

SUPPRESSION OF GAMBLING.—The Duke of Lucca, by a royal ordinance, has prohibited all games of hazard in his dominions. The Casino at the baths is to be used henceforth only as a reading-room.

A papal decree has renewed an ordinance of 1732, which declared Ancona and Sinagaglia free ports.

THE POPE AND THE SULTAN.—The Pope has appointed consuls for the principal ports of Turkey, and his Holiness is about to send an ambassador to Constantinople to negotiate a treaty for the purpose of securing to the Christian subjects of the Sultan the free exercise of their religion.

MARRIAGE OF THE DUKE OF BORDEAUX.—According to a letter in the *Augsburgh Gazette* from Bruck, in Styria, the marriage of the Duke de Bordeaux with the Princess Theresa, of Modena, was solemnised in that city on the evening of the 16th instant. The illustrious couple quitted the town immediately after the ceremony. The

church received a present of 1,000 francs, and a donation of 2,500 francs was made to the indigent of the town. The Duchess de Bordeaux has remitted to the Marquis de Pastoret a sum of 10,000 francs, for the relief of the sufferers from the inundations of the Loire. [The *Morning Post* says, that the Duke and Duchess of Bordeaux are shortly expected to pay a visit to this country.]

THE FREE-TRADE ASSOCIATION OF PARIS met on Wednesday. An assembly of two thousand persons loudly applauded speeches delivered by the Duke d'Harcourt, and MM. Léon Faucher, Orlotan, and Blanqui. The names of the Duke de Broglie, M. Dumas, President of the Society for Encouragement of National Industry, and M. Adams, Mayor of Boulogne, and President of the Council-general of the Department of the Pas de Calais, were announced as among the new members. The Association is bringing out a weekly paper, under the editorship of M. Bastiat, to be called *Le Progrès. Journal de la Liberté des Echanges*.

FORTIFICATION OF PARIS.—The *Réforme* mentions a report which prevails in the banlieue of Paris that the fortifications of the city are to be armed, and that an order has been issued for every national guard to keep his musket in his own house, instead of leaving it with the drummers.

A LUCKY AND SENTIMENTAL FRENCHMAN.—M. Odillon Barrot, the French deputy, has been sojourning at Constantinople; and it is asserted that he has received from the Sultan presents of pipes and shawls to the value of £20,000. M. Odillon Barrot was presented to the Sultan, and the conversation is reported. The Sultan said, "I am delighted to see you; I have heard of you much; I am aware of your sympathies for my empire. I hope that public opinion in France will do justice to my efforts in favour of civilisation: the difficulties which I have to surmount are great, but I shall triumph over them." M. Barrot replied dramatically: he asked the Sultan to "pardon the emotion which he felt;" and, after a complimentary sentence or two, added, "The prosperity of the empire is not only of importance to Turkey, but interests, in a high degree, the independence of nations and the peace of the world. On this point, there is but one opinion in France." The Sultan rejoined, "I am aware of the sentiments of France, and I reckon on her support."

NOVEL FESTIVAL IN ROME.—A letter from Rome of the 12th states, that a grand dinner in honour of the possession of Pope Pius IX. took place the day before in the Theatre Aliberti. About a thousand guests, including a number of persons who had been amnestied, were present. The committee consisted of men of the middle class—an order of mankind never yet heard of in Roman affairs. Several speeches were delivered and pieces of poetry declaimed, and loud acclamations in honour of the Pope were heard. After the dinner there was a ball, which lasted until twelve o'clock. The whole of the company then went through the streets of Rome, preceded by a band of music. The only disorder that took place was the breaking of some windows at the Borghesi palace, because the servants did not illuminate quick enough.

DISCOVERY OF A DEAD CHILD IN A RAILWAY PACKAGE.—NOTTINGHAM.—About nineteen days ago, a wicker basket was booked at the railway station in this town, and was sent off in the regular way by train to London. The person bringing the basket particularly requested that it might not be placed outside the carriage, nor crushed, and, if possible, it might be put inside upon a seat along with the passengers, as it was to be conveyed with great care. The parcels' office being, at the time, rather thronged, the porter, Willoughby, did not take particular notice of the person giving him the directions, but to the best of his recollection it was a female, rather low in stature, and of a dark complexion. On Thursday, the basket having been refused, was brought back to the station by the mail-train arriving at half-past two o'clock in the morning, and, according to custom, when an owner for a parcel cannot be found, Willoughby opened the basket, when, to his utter amazement, he found a dead infant. Its mouth appeared to have had considerable moisture in it, which had become quite mouldy and green. Underneath the infant was a quantity of cloths and straw, and a letter addressed to "W. J. Smith, Esq., Suffolk." The letter was in a decent hand-writing, and from a young female in a village within six miles of Nottingham, and after requesting that the father of the infant would take care of it, warned him against seducing any one as he had done her. The basket, with the child and letter, were immediately handed over to the police, and a coroner's jury assembled, but adjourned till Saturday to allow time for a *post mortem* examination. The inquest has been held, but no clue has been thrown upon the mysterious event. It has been adjourned *sine die*.

ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL, CITY-ROAD.—A general court of the governors of this institution was held on Wednesday, at the Hall of Commerce, for the following business:—"To receive the half-yearly report from the general committee on the state of the charity; to elect auditors for the ensuing year; and to elect fifteen children into the school. At eleven o'clock James Esdaile, Esq., took the chair, and the secretary proceeded to read the report, from which it appeared that the progress of the children in education, and the state of their health, were most satisfactory. The building fund for the new school-house at Haverstock-hill had reached £6,000, but £8,000 more would be required. At the close of the present election 139 children would be receiving the benefits of the institution, making an increase of thirty-nine in a period of six years. After the disposal of some routine business, thanks were voted to the chairman, and the election of the children was proceeded with."

RECLAMATION OF LAND FROM THE SEA.—In addition to the large tract of land which has already been reclaimed from the sea in Norfolk and Lincolnshire, a further intake of five hundred acres, which has been named Wingland, has been made during the last few weeks, and measures are now being taken to bring it at once into cultivation.—*Stamford Mercury*.

IRELAND.

ALARMING STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

Their appears to be no abatement in the run for fire-arms, all the provincial journals bearing witness to the unprecedented briskness in the gun trade. The *Westmeath Guardian* says:—"The sale of fire-arms is become a general trade in most of the provincial towns in the country. Formerly there was but one licensed house for the sale of fire-arms in this town, and, from the limited number of customers, it afforded but an indifferent business. Since the Arms' Act was allowed to expire two others have sprung into existence, and all are doing a first-rate trade, several cases having been imported from Birmingham."

The *Liberal* journal in Clonmel, the *Tipperary Free Press*, gives the following account of the rapid increase of the traffic in that town, which is the capital of the county:—"There is more business doing in the trade in guns, pistols, blunderbusses, powder and shot, than in any other in this town. Day and night reports of gun-shots are heard throughout the country—in some localities volleys are discharged, to the great terror of the peaceable inhabitants."

The *Limerick Chronicle* says:—"The sale of fire-arms in this city, never so extensive, is almost exclusively availed of by that large class of people. For Ballycannane townland, twenty-nine guns were bought up in the last week. The Birmingham trade was never so flourishing."

The following is an extract of a letter from a Clonmel correspondent, in the *Cork Examiner*:—

CLONMEL, NOV. 25.—Major-general his Royal Highness Prince George of Cambridge arrived here on Monday, from Besborough-house, the residence of his Excellency the Lord-Lieutenant, where he had been on a visit. I understand the object of his visit was to make inquiries respecting the erection of extra stabling for cavalry, which he directed to have commenced forthwith; the gun-sheds in the Artillery Barracks are to be converted into that purpose, to the extent of affording accommodation for forty horses.

Mr. Corkran, of Fethard, has been declared contractor, by the Board of Ordnance, for the extensive new works and alterations in the infantry barracks, which are to be commenced next week. In addition to this, the Board of Ordnance have retained and fitted up, at much expense, Mr. Bianconi's premises in Bagwell-street as a barrack, which is at present occupied by the 34th *dépôt*. These precautions would seem to intimate that the Government fear an outbreak. The people, on the other hand, appear to be quite as determined, and seem desirous of not being found unprepared, should their necessities drive them to commit outrages, for they are purchasing arms and ammunition in every direction; in fact, the gun trade is the most prosperous one in this country at the present time; indeed, supplies cannot be obtained half quick enough.

Although the Board of Works have now nearly 200,000 persons employed, there are calls for more works on districts where the Labour-rate Act is not yet in operation. Nevertheless landlords are crying out against "useless public works," whilst there is no other means of keeping the people from starvation, unless you give them money or food for nothing. At best the system is an evil one; but there is no remedy, as the landlords are either unable or unwilling to supply labour from drainage or general productive works, even though the Government are ready to advance the funds, in accordance with the Chief Secretary's letter.

ALARMING STATE OF CLARE.—A gentleman in Clare writing to his friends in Dublin says:—"The weekly expenditure in this county at present is, I am told, about £16,000, and an insane roar for more work. About one-eighth of the population are employed at road and other similar works, and all other employment entirely neglected. Not one step made in the direction of a provision for reproductive employment, except the drainage of large rivers. The amount of labour is so great as to be beyond the control of the staff employed, or indeed of any staff. Enormous sums are wasting, without any adequate effect being produced."

The *Carlow Sentinel* calculates the cost of public works in that county, between now and August next, at £60,000! "But £60,000, who shall say if it will end there? How shall the poor farmer pay his scarcely poorer labourer? Fourpence a day and potatoes, was simple enough. The farmer grows the potatoes; the labourer digs them up, and eats them; but 4d. a day, and meal—'aye, there's the rub.'"

STARTLING FACT.—The Dublin correspondent of the *Chronicle* states, that over an area of upwards of fifty thousand acres, in the county of Donegal, a plough has never been used this autumn! Here are virtually waste lands, with a startling population of ten thousand souls.

The local journals still contain shocking accounts of extreme destitution. At the meeting of the Clonkee central relief committee, held in Baileborough, county of Cavan, on Monday, John Young, Esq., M.P., presiding, almost every clergyman present expressed his decided conviction that human patience had reached its limits, and that if employment were not immediately provided, the peasantry would break out into open insurrection. A call has been made upon the Board of Works to hasten and extend employment, under the Labour-rate act, in the county of Cavan, in order to prevent an outbreak of the starving peasantry! The only gratifying features in the provincial accounts are the increased supplies and reduced prices of food, and the continued exertions of the relief committees.

It is stated that the Government intend to take immediate steps for the promotion of the Irish fisheries.

POTATOES.—The market returns of yesterday (Wednesday) present, for the first time since the failure of this crop, a complete blank, not a single potato having been brought to market. In the corresponding day of last year, there were eighty loads at market, the price being 4d. for whites, and 6½d. to 6d. for minions.—*Cork Reporter*.

THE FOOD QUESTION.—It appears, by an important correspondence between the Earl of Rosse and Sir Randolph Routh, that the Commissary-general will not sanction donations from Government to such relief

committees as distribute food gratuitously, or dispose of it at reduced prices to the poor.

DISSENSION IN THE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—Resignations are still pouring in, on account of the suspension of the 14th rule of the Society, which prohibited anything in the shape of political discussion. It is understood that some of the leading members have forwarded communications, urgently recommending that the Society should retrace its steps, and restore this rule, as the only means of preventing the dissolution of the Society. At the weekly meeting of the Council on Friday it was determined to take this course, should it appear advisable (of which there is not a shadow of doubt), at the next general meeting, on the 12th of December.

ANOTHER MANIFESTO FROM CAHIRMONEY.—Mr. Smith O'Brien's second manifesto has made its appearance in the organ of the party—*Young Ireland*—of which he is the accredited chief and champion. The document relates to the subject of tenure of land, and is so discursive as to render an abridgement of the leader's views impracticable, while its great length precludes all idea of publishing it in *extenso*.

THE ULSTER COLLEGES.—The *Northern Whig* gives currency to a statement that the Government have endowed four new Professorships for the Queen's College, Belfast, in connexion with the Presbyterian Church of Ireland, and also two new Professorships in connexion with the Unitarian body. It adds, with respect to these two last appointments, "it is the intention of the Government to give an endowment of £150 a year to each of the two Theological Professors (Dr. Montgomery and the Rev. J. S. Porter) of the Non-Subscribing Presbyterians." The first four appointments are mentioned less positively, as Professors of New Testament and Ecclesiastical Greek, Hebrew and other Oriental languages, Moral Philosophy, and Sacred Rhetoric and Catechetical Instruction, with salaries of £250 each.

The *Nation* says, that, as far as patronage is concerned, from a policeman's place up to the Chancellorship, Mr. O'Connell is *de facto* Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.—The first of a course of lectures in connexion with the above institution, was delivered on Tuesday evening, by Mr. William Arthur, at the Centenary-hall, Bishopsgate-street; the large room being filled to overflowing. The attention, interest, and intelligence manifested by the audience, were sufficient to convince any one, that the young men of London deserve, as well as rightfully claim, shortened hours of labour,—they know so well how to employ them. The subject of the lecture was India, comprising under that general name the whole country from Cape Comorin to the Himalaya Mountains. The lecture was geographical, historical, and descriptive of the present state and habits of the Hindoos. The lecturer concluded as follows:—

God has permitted British Christians to enter on the work of evangelising this country, and even now thousands are kneeling before the same throne, calling on the same God, and looking forward to the same blessed hope. The work is proceeding with energy; Hindooism is taking alarm, and the people are turning from caste and custom to the only and true God. There will be many trials to endure—many a nerve must be strained. I call on all to be supporters of the great work of regenerating the millions of India. Accomplish it we shall—we must. In every quarter of the land, thousands bid us come. Commerce, civilisation, education, philanthropy, domestic affections, science, and religion—with her knee on earth, and her look in heaven—all, with one voice cry, "Come on!" and but one voice contradicts; her eye is red with blood; she sits there, and yells, and feasts on the hearts, the hopes, and the souls of men. But superstition shall fall before the word of the Lord Jehovah. The lecturer was loudly cheered at the conclusion of his lecture, and after a vote of thanks, the audience separated.

HORTON LANE CHAPEL, BRADFORD.—Mr. John Glyde, in conformity to the wishes of a great majority of the congregation, has consented to resume his charge.

THE WESLEYANS.—The friends of Methodism recently held two tea meetings at and in the neighbourhood of Buxton, at one of which £1,200, and at the other, no less than £2,000 was voluntarily subscribed towards liquidating the chapel debts in the circuit.

"THE KING'S NAME IS A TOWER OF STRENGTH."—A gentleman who rejoices in the same surname as the Railway King, was travelling on one of his majesty's lines a few days ago, and although weary from the loss of a night's rest, could not get to sleep for the rattling of a window. He therefore made a plug of his ticket, and "put down" the noise. But, unfortunately, when he awoke the ticket was gone; and when the guard came for it, he insisted upon a second payment of the fare. "You shall not have it, sir," said the traveller, "but I'll give you my name, if you please!" "O, that won't do! I must have the money," was the reply. "The money I shall not give you," the stranger calmly rejoined, "but my name is Hudson, sir: I'm my uncle's nephew!" "Beg your pardon, sir," said his majesty's servant, touching his hat; and not another word was heard about the ticket. The traveller and his neighbours had a hearty laugh when the door was closed.—*Gateshead Observer*.

SHORT TIME.—A journal favourable to a ten hours bill (the *Preston Chronicle*, of Saturday last) has the following paragraph:—"The hands in the employ of Mr. George Smith, spinner, being dissatisfied with the reduction of the hours of labour to eight daily, gave notice of their intention of leaving work, if the old time was not resumed. Mr. Smith not being disposed to give way, closed his mill altogether, and as yet no terms have been come to."

CONSERVANCY OF THE RIVER.—Notices have been given by the corporation of the city of London of their intention to apply to Parliament to extend their power for the conservancy of the river; to enable them to widen, deepen, dredge the same, and to remove all obstructions; to take down or build bridges, and to levy tolls; to erect steamboat and other piers between Yantlet-creek and Staines.

THE MOVEMENT ON BEHALF OF TAHITI.

PUBLIC MEETING AT MANCHESTER.—On Thursday afternoon, a public meeting of the friends of evangelical missions, was held in the Town-hall, for the purpose of memorialising her Majesty's Government on behalf of the oppressed inhabitants of Tahiti. The meeting was numerous and respectfully attended. Elkanah Armitage, Esq., the Mayor of Manchester, presided. The meeting was addressed by Dr. Clunie, Dr. Halley, Mr. Canon Stowell, Dr. Vaughan, and others. A memorial to Lord Palmerston was unanimously adopted, praying his lordship and her Majesty's Government to adopt such measures as, on the one hand, may secure a full and distinct recognition of the independence of the Society Islands; and, on the other, may obtain an assurance from the French Government that the natives of Tahiti, in peacefully leaving their island, shall suffer no molestation from the forces of France.

BRADFORD, YORKSHIRE.—TAHITI.—A memorial is in course of signature among the inhabitants of this town, having reference to this long-oppressed island, the inhabitants of which are now almost exterminated, and to its dependencies. Earnestly deprecating all hostile measures, the memorial begs the attention of the British Government to this subject. It asks, at the same time, that the poor Tahitians, driven by French forces into the mountain fastnesses in the interior of their island, and surrounded by a military cordon, which renders escape impossible, may have permission from the French Government peaceably to retire, and seek in some adjacent island the peace hitherto so cruelly denied them.—*Bradford Observer*.

READING.—A public meeting, in pursuance of a requisition to the Mayor, was held in the Town-hall, on Wednesday evening, to consider the state and prospects of the oppressed and persecuted Protestants in Tahiti. The chair was taken by the Mayor. A memorial on behalf of the distressed Protestants, to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, was agreed to.—*Oxford Chronicle*.

PORTSMOUTH.—A public meeting of the inhabitants of this town, was held on Thursday evening, in King-street chapel, Portsea, to consider the propriety of memorialising Lord Palmerston, secretary of state for foreign affairs, to interfere on behalf of Queen Pomare, with the French Government; the Mayor, B. Bramble, Esq., took the chair. Mr. J. J. Freeman attended as a deputation from the London Missionary Society, and most eloquently addressed the meeting. We have been kindly furnished with a report of the meeting by our correspondent, but regret our inability, from want of room, to insert it. It was moved, that a deputation, consisting of the Chairman (his Worship the Mayor of the borough), Benjamin Bramble, Esq., and Nathaniel Griffin, Esq., should accompany the members for the borough to Lord Palmerston, in order to press on his lordship the views entertained by the meeting.

THE NOTTINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL have adopted a memorial to Lord Palmerston, and no doubt other public bodies will follow the example.

LYNN, NORFOLK.—A memorial to Lord Palmerston, on the subject of French aggressions in Tahiti, has this week been very respectfully signed, and will be forthwith presented to his lordship. It bears the signatures of the mayor, late mayor, magistrates, burgesses, &c.

TAHITI.—Meetings to adopt memorials on behalf of Queen Pomare and her subjects, have been held at Tewkesbury and Gloucester. We understand that it is proposed to hold a similar meeting at Cheltenham.—*Cheltenham Free Press*.

PLYMOUTH AND DEVONPORT.—In both of these towns public meetings have been held: in the former, the morning, in the latter, in the evening of Wednesday last. The former was presided over by the Mayor, and addressed by Mr. D. Derry, Mr. Nicholson, minister, Mr. France, and others. A memorial to the Secretary for Foreign Affairs was adopted, and ordered to be transmitted through the members for the borough.

At Yarmouth, Derby, Leicester, Macclesfield, and Maidstone, memorials to a like effect have been adopted.

THE GREAT BRITAIN STEAMER.—The last number of the *Newry Telegraph* says:—"The tempest and fearful flood tides of last week have had a disastrous influence over the gigantic frame of this once noble vessel," and publishes the following letter from Dundrum, written on Sunday week:—"According to promise, I let you know how things are progressing with the Great Britain. Thursday's work has finished her. Mr. Bremner has failed, as I anticipated, in his breakwater, which was entirely washed away. The sea made a clean breach over her, and swept away several skylights on deck. The ship filled with water to such an extent, that the cabin doors and bulkheads are nearly all washed into the holds, and about the decks; the promenade deck was covered with water; in fact, you might almost say she filled, for every one on board had to fly to the upper deck, and there wait till the water ran out of her. She was afloat, and thumping both forward and aft, and her head is shifted more towards Tyrrell's Watch-house again. Mr. Bremner has given her up, and they are, at length, going to take the masts out of her, together with her engines. I have not yet examined her bottom, but intend doing so to-morrow; if all I hear is correct, I fear she is gone. She was pitching, at times, as much as three feet."

DEATH OF THE POET TEGNER.—The celebrated Dr. Esaias Tegner, Bishop of Wexio, in Sweden, died at the Episcopal palace, in the said city, on the 2nd inst, aged 64, having been born the 13th of November, 1782. He was one of the greatest modern poets, and his works, "Frithiofs Saga," "Axel," &c., which are translated into the English and most of the European languages, have been read with admiration and delight, not only in his native country, but almost all over the world.—*Times*.

THE QUEEN OF SPAIN has been pleased to confer on Don Pedro Juan de Zulueta, Spanish merchant, the title of Count de Torre Diaz.

GRAND BANQUET TO MR. COBDEN AT CADIZ.

The *Comercio* of Cadiz, of the 11th inst., contains an account of a grant banquet given the day before to Mr. Cobden, M.P., in that great commercial city, by various merchants and proprietors of the place. The banquet was prepared in one of the beautiful saloons of the Casino, given up for the purpose by the society of the establishment. Mr. Cobden was accompanied by his friend and fellow-traveller, Mr. Salis Schwabe, of Manchester, and by Don Jorge Urtetegui, a respectable merchant, and a friend of the great English League leader. Don Jorge Urtetegui presided, supported by Mr. Cobden on his right, and Don Jose Maria Elizalde on his left. There were altogether forty-four persons present, all gentlemen of high standing in society, and for the most part interested in commerce.

After dinner, the president proposed "The healths of the Queen of Spain and her Royal Family." Señor Elizalde then proposed "The health of Queen Victoria of England." Both toasts were drunk with enthusiasm. The president then gave the health of Mr. Richard Cobden, expressing a "wish that heaven might prolong his life, so as to enable him to behold the complete triumph of his sound doctrines throughout Europe as he has already done in England!"

Mr. Cobden replied in English: the majority of his hearers understanding that language pretty well. He said:—

I am not surprised to see that the commercial principles which I have maintained in England meet with partisans in Cadiz. It is to those principles, and not to their humble advocate, that you are at this moment rendering honour. The supporters of free trade in England have only had one object in view, which may be summed up in a single word—liberty [applause]! We found our trade subject to a thousand restrictions. The laws on all sides limited individual operations. Our merchants and manufacturers carried their spirit of speculation to the utmost extremities of the globe; but, on returning to their own country, laden with the produce of foreign climes, they found themselves repelled from their own shores by absurd and restrictive duties. It was in order to put a period to this interference of the law against the rights of individuals that the English League was formed. Let the different nations of Europe compare notes, and we shall find that, in all of them, commerce flourishes or declines in proportion to the freedom or restriction it encounters. Compare a seaport enjoying a freedom of trade with another which is deprived of that blessing, and the same difference will be manifested. All of you will remember, gentlemen, that, during one year, Cadiz enjoyed extraordinary prosperity; you will have present to your minds the great number of ships that adorned its ample bay—the vast traffic which animated its streets, and filled its magazines with the products of all climes. What was the cause of this magical change in Cadiz? Its climate, its port, its products, were the same as ever; but there had been one alteration which explained all this prosperity. For one year Cadiz was a free port [immense applause]! If you think, gentlemen, that Spain may prosper by adopting the policy which now prevails in England, you ought to employ the same means that were put in practice by us in order to enlighten public opinion in favour of free trade [marks of acquiescence]. It is necessary that you should promote discussion on the subject by every possible means. He who may be convinced of the truth of our principles ought to deem it a duty to convert his fellow citizens. Great truths—no matter whether religious, political, or philosophical—are only propagated by individual exertions. It is useless, gentlemen, to hope from your Government for measures of free trade whilst the people remain unconvinced of its advantages. In my opinion, almost all the Governments of Europe are more advanced than their subjects in the knowledge of economical questions: they are only awaiting the removal of the obstacles opposed by ignorance and prejudices, in order to walk in the path of commercial liberty.

A number of other and shorter speeches were afterwards made in favour of free trade by Mr. Schwabe and some of the Spanish gentlemen present.

POSTSCRIPT.

Wednesday, December 2nd.
THE OVERLAND MAIL.

The express from Marseilles arrived last night bringing advices from Bombay to the 2nd of November. It brings several items of important intelligence. The insurrection in Cashmere is said to be nearly at an end. Sheikh Emaum-ood-Deen has again temporised and made a show of yielding, and has even withdrawn his troops from the siege of a small fort called Hurree Purvut. But the winter is about to set in, and then the greater number of the passes from Jamoo into the vale of Cashmere will be close, and the Sheikh, unless dispossessed previously, may laugh for a time at the armies sent to attack him. In the meantime there are considerable forces in movement towards Cashmere, which seem to indicate that some ulterior measures of great importance will soon be adopted. It is rather probable that the British authorities, convinced of the impolicy of placing the Mahomedan population of Cashmere and the neighbouring districts under the yoke of the Sikh Gholab, with whose rule they are not likely ever to be satisfied, will much circumscribe the dominions of Gholab ere the close of the present campaign. The Lahore force, under Tej Singh, had, by the middle of October, got within twelve miles of Bheembur, when he declared his inability to proceed for want of carriage. This delay looks rather suspicious. A revolt had been suppressed at Bhopal. There was an important discussion going forward at Madras, where the Government had removed the whole of the judges of the Sudder and Foudaree Adawlut, the upper courts of the hon. Company. The cause of this removal was the decision of those courts in favour of the natives, and against certain acts of the missionaries at Tinivelly. This has produced great excitement amongst the native community of that presidency, who held a great meeting to call on the Government to reinstate one of the judges (Mr. Lewin). The whole matter has been referred to the Court of Directors.

Matters are in a very unsatisfactory state at Canton. The English cannot make use of their right to enter the city; fresh riots are apprehended, and an attempt, on

the part of the Chinese, to burn out the whole foreign community. A French squadron had visited Japan, and their flag had been insulted. We may, therefore, look for some hostile proceedings on the part of the French admiral.

UNITED STATES AND MEXICO.

The Britannia arrived in the Mersey yesterday morning, bringing advices from New York to the 15th ult. From the intelligence thus received we learn that the Government loan of 5,000,000 dollars, for the prosecution of the Mexican war, had at length been taken—the recurrence of the former unsuccessful attempt of the American squadron in the Gulf of Mexico, to capture the insignificant town of Alvarado, though led by the commodore of the squadron in person, and the abandonment of the pass of Saltillo by the Mexicans. News of the surrender of Monterey had reached Mexico, where it created a good deal of excitement. Nothing like discouragement, however, was manifested by either the people or the Government. Santa Anna was at San Luis Potosi, at the head of a considerable force, and the Mexican President had announced to the Government, that in the course of a short period he should be enabled, by the levies which had been made on the several departments and cities, to collect around his standard a host of patriots, that would swell his army to a figure sufficiently large to drive the invaders from the soil. His military chest was, however, bare. The Government, it is stated, were fortifying the city of Mexico. General Ampudia, at the last advices, was at Saltillo, probably with the whole or greater part of his army. General Taylor is still at Monterey, and had discharged the entire force of mounted Mexican volunteers. From the south-east we learn that General Kearney, with the army of the right, had left Santa Fe for California on Sept. 25th, with 400 mules in his train.

That the war is not generally popular in the States is evident from the result of the recent elections. In a late number we mentioned that all the more important states had returned Whigs. New York has since elected a Whig Governor by a majority of 10,000 votes; also twenty-two of the thirty-four members of the next or thirtieth Congress of the United States. Enough is now known to authorise the opinion that the next House of Representatives (which does not, however, meet until December 1847) will contain a majority of Whigs. Congress will shortly assemble, and the message of the President is anticipated with much interest. The Vermont Legislature had adjourned *sine die*, after having adopted resolutions declaring that Vermont will not give her assent to the admission of any new state to the Union whose constitution tolerates slavery; declaring the opinion of the House that the war with Mexico "was not founded in any imperative necessity, such as may justify or excuse a Christian nation for resorting to arms," and that it "has now manifestly become an offensive war against a neighbouring Republic;" and, further, "that the honour and best interests of the nation will be subserved by a speedy end of the war with Mexico, and the settlement of all matters in dispute by arbitration or negotiation."

There are other indications that the slavery question, in a political and public shape, is fast fermenting to an issue. Mr. Webster, in his Boston speech, says that it is the duty of every Whig, "never to permit another annexation of slave territory." California and New Mexico are to be annexed, however; and the south will never consent to be hemmed in on both sides by free states. "All slave south of 36° 30'" is the common expression of their vital policy and determination. The Whigs express their impatience of the domination of the south, and their determination to humiliate slavery no more. The planters of Missouri (it is stated in a late paper) are selling their slaves as *bad property*, the temptations to escape, and the protection given in the neighbouring states, make the tenure so uncertain. At Chicago, a few weeks since, three slaves, under arrest before a magistrate, were forcibly rescued by the mob (*five clergymen* among them), and carried safely beyond jurisdiction.

THE ROYAL VISIT TO ARUNDEL.—Her Majesty and Prince Albert yesterday morning made their long-promised visit to Arundel-castle, after a very rapid journey from Osborne-house, during which they were received with every demonstration of loyalty and respect, more especially from the people of Chichester and Arundel. Their movements are duly chronicled in upwards of three columns of the *Times* of this morning. The royal party left Osborne-house at half-past twelve o'clock, on board the Fairy, reached Portsmouth at one, and arrived at Arundel about four o'clock. Here, having placed herself under the protection of the Mayor and municipal body, a procession was formed, and the cavalcade moved at a slow pace along Maltravers, formerly Old Market-street, to the castle gate, where the royal visitors were received by the Duke and Duchess of Norfolk. There are to be fireworks, an illumination of the town, and other marks of rejoicing. The Queen has, we are told, placed herself entirely under the duke's care, dispensing with several of her ordinary attendants of the highest class. Amongst the visitors at the castle during the Queen's stay, are the members of the Duke of Norfolk's family, the Dukes of Wellington and Bedford, the Earls of Arundel and Ellesmere, Viscount Palmerston, Lords John Russell and Morpeth, besides many distinguished ladies. Provision had been made by the inhabitants of the town, by which not a single poor person in the place will be in want of a dinner (and that a sumptuous one) on the day of their Queen's arrival.

BRITISH ANTI-STATE-CHURCH ASSOCIATION, NORWOOD.—Mr. Kingsley delivered a lecture on the Nature of a State-Church, in the Infant school-room, adjoining the Independent chapel, in this place, on Thursday last, Nov. 26. The room was quite full, and the audience listened for two hours, with the deepest attention and interest, to the lecturer's arguments on the unscriptural and indefensible character of all religious establishments by the State. Mr. Kingsley was very successful in demolishing the arguments that are frequently advanced in support of establishments, which our opponents derive from the nature of the Jewish polity, while

the social unfairness of a State-Church, in degrading all who do not belong to it—the palpable injustice and impolicy of thus politically stigmatising many of the most honourable members of society, simply because they cannot bow the knee to the Baal of civil supremacy in matters of conscience—received from the lecturer all the illustration and vehement exposure which so grave a subject requires. We heartily wish success to Mr. Kingsley in the great work to which he has devoted his talents: and, before long, we shall hope to spend another evening with him in our Infant school-room.—*From a Correspondent.*

SABBATH SCHOOLS AND THE SLAVERY QUESTION.—A Norwich correspondent writes:—"I send you the following admirable resolutions on slaveholding, adopted by the teachers of the Sabbath-school connected with the Baptist place of worship, on Orford-hill, Norwich. The example thus set has already excited some others in this city, and we may hope it will be extensively followed by Sabbath-schools and their teachers throughout Britain." The following are the resolutions referred to:—

1st. That considering the awful extent to which slavery is practised among professing Christians in America, it becomes incumbent on all the followers of Christ to exert their influence, in some practical manner, that our American brethren may be led to see the sinfulness of slaveholding.

2nd. That the secretary be directed to draw up a memorial, to be signed by the children, and a letter, to be signed by the teachers, to be sent to some church or churches where slaveholders form a part: likewise a memorial, to be signed by the teachers, to be sent to the Sunday-school Union, in New York, requesting their co-operation.

3rd. That notice of these proceedings be sent to some chapel or chapels in every town in England and Wales, and to the Sunday-school Union in Scotland, that they may be induced to follow the example, in hope, that this display of arguments and feeling, presented by such a body of Sabbath-school teachers and children, might be the means, through God's blessing, of leading our American brethren to reflect on their ways, and determine, let others do as they will, as for us, "we will serve the Lord."

In consequence of the above resolutions, we have this day sent off the memorials and letters, and inform you of the same; and we shall be glad if you will circulate this information in every Sunday-school around you, as we thought the expense would be exceedingly great, and quite unnecessary to send one to every chapel in every town.

Signed on behalf of the teachers,
H. WARREN, Secretary.

CHURCH AND STATE.—FREE DISCUSSION.—Last night about 200 persons met at the British school-room, Denmark-terrace, Islington, to hear the following question discussed:—"Does the State-church present an effectual barrier against Popery?" This is the first of a series of four meetings to be held each succeeding week, on Tuesday evening. Robert Dence, Esq., of Stonefield-street, Islington, was unanimously elected moderator. The discussion commenced at about a quarter to nine o'clock, and continued to nearly eleven. It excited much interest. The subjects which remain for discussion are as follows:—Dec. 8. Does a State-religion accord with the spirit of the New Testament? Dec. 15. Are State-establishments of religion sanctioned by Old Testament analogy? Dec. 22. Do State-churches tend to promote Christianity? These meetings are adapted to do much good.

RAILWAY TO MARGATE.—Yesterday, the South-Eastern Company's branch line from Ramsgate to Margate was opened for passenger traffic.

PARISH OF MARYLEBONE.—At a full meeting of the Board of Guardians, held yesterday, at the workhouse, an inquiry was instituted into the conduct of the relieving officer and inspector with respect to the case of Louisa Mordaunt, whose death was "caused from the want of the common necessities of life." Mr. Messer, Langley the inspector, and Mackenzie the beadle, were examined, and after a long discussion, the two first were, by formal resolution, severely reprimanded for neglect of duty.

THE ST. PANCRAZ BOARD OF GUARDIANS, at a meeting held yesterday, adopted resolutions for ensuring a more speedy relief to the poor. Better late than never.

NEW POLAR EXPEDITION.—At the late meeting of the Royal Geographical Society, it was announced by Sir J. H. Pelly, that the Hudson's Bay Company had fitted out a well equipped expedition, for the purpose of surveying the unexplored portion of the coast on the north-east angle of the American continent. The expedition, consisting of eleven persons and two Esquimaux guides, started in two boats, on the 5th of July, under favourable circumstances, the ice having cleared away from the shores of the bay at an earlier period of the season than usual.

THE LADY POACHER.—The information for poaching against the Duchess of Marlborough has been defeated on a technical point of law. The statute, not looking to a violation of its provisions by females, only introduces the masculine gender "he;" and therefore "she," the Duchess, escapes its operation.

THE ROBBERY BY A FRENCHWOMAN.—The statement made by "Mademoiselle Malvina Florentine de Saumarez," who was recently committed to prison for robbery at Andover, that she was related to the family of Lord de Saumarez, has been formally contradicted.

One of the factories of Messrs. Palmer, patent candle makers, Great Compton-street, London, was destroyed by fire, on Tuesday last. The damage is estimated at £2,000, which is covered by insurance.

POPEY IN BRISTOL.—For some time past, six Sisters of Mercy, living in a small house in Pritchard-street, St. Paul's, have exerted themselves, we are afraid too successfully, amongst the poor of this city. Encouraged, undoubtedly, by their success, they have lately removed to Harford-house, Dighton-street, where they have been trebled in number by fresh arrivals from Belgium. We hear also that the Sisters of Penance of St. Dominic, "whose labours embrace the whole works of mercy, corporal and spiritual," are about to settle in another portion of this city.—*Bristol Journal.*

CORN MARKET. MARK LANE. THIS DAY.

	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Beans	Peas	Flour.
English	9270	9320	4910			3450
Scotch						
Irish						
Foreign	5720	7280	16550			

Maize is still in demand, but not much doing in wheat.

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* All communications to the Editor should be addressed to the office, 3, Whitefriars-street, Fleet-street.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"William Edmund Sadler." His letter is somewhat too long for insertion, and we really cannot see how it touches the reasoning contained in our former articles on the question.

"A Friend to Humanity." The question is not about the end, but about the adaptation of the proposed means to secure the end.

We have received two or three letters on the subject of our article, "Religion by Force." Neither of them replies to the case, as we put it. Railway property is not private property, and cannot be dealt with as such. Would either of our correspondents justify the detention of the mail on Sundays? If not, they lay themselves open to the same indiscriminate censure as they have heaped upon us.

"Philo," declined.

"J. G." We thank him for his kindness, but we have a natural reluctance to advertise ourselves through the medium of our own columns of correspondence.

"A Noncon." next week.

Many thanks to our Wellingborough correspondent.

The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, DEC. 2, 1846.

SUMMARY.

THE week has been barren of news. But for Ireland, we should have little or nothing to record. The time has hardly come for those floating rumours, of what the Government intends to do next session, which usually prevail at the close of the year, and which serve to break the monotony of a long recess. The famine, which ought, according to prediction, to have been setting in about this time with awful intensity, is nowhere to be heard of on this side of St. George's Channel. Slackness of trade is too common, at this period of the year, to attract public notice. The railway mania, although not absolutely extinct, is comparatively quiet. Now and then murder produces a momentary thrill of horror, and death from starvation awakens passing inquiry; but the newspapers, taken as a whole, present us with British intelligence which can only be fitly characterised as "weary, stale, flat, and unprofitable." The current of events is both smooth and sluggish—scarcely a ripple appears upon its surface—and the daily press, compelled to fill up their broad sheets with readable matter, give us, in the place of facts, long columns of foreign correspondence, elaborate reviews of current literature, and editorial articles, of singular ability, upon subjects now worn well-nigh threadbare.

Ireland is an exception to the rule—always has been—and, for two or three generations to come, probably will be. Ireland sends us news enough, but it is of the wrong sort. There, we are called to witness the singular spectacle of a destitute and State-fed peasantry expending their wages, not in bread, but in arms—crowding to gunsmiths—outbidding each other for weapons of offence—as if to threaten the hand from which it receives employment and food with bloody revenge the first moment it is withdrawn. At an immense and almost overwhelming expense, Government is finding work for a destitute nation. What is the consequence? A universal rush and scramble for public money, and a reluctance, almost as universal, to turn it to productive account. All classes stoop to jobbing—landlords, tenants, cottiers, grand juries, political associations—men of all conditions, individually and collectively, agree in attempting to defraud and fleece the State. Agricultural labour is almost at an end. The fields are left untilled for make-believe work upon public roads. Meanwhile, confederation amongst the peasantry is hatching new mischief; and, before many months have elapsed, Ireland bids fair to require a stronger hand for its Government than any which has grappled with it of late years. Such is the penalty entailed upon us by a long career of misgovernment. Oppression, persisted in for many generations, has demoralised the people beyond management. We are now reaping the natural fruits of past misdeeds.

At Manchester, it appears, Mr. Bright is threatened with the opposition of a rival candidate, intended to secure the support of Conservative-Whigs and Whig-Conservatives. Lord Lincoln and Mr. John Walter have been named. Upon whom the choice will fall we are unable, from present appearances, to determine. Mr. Bright's committee, consisting of about three hundred members, have resolved upon an active personal canvass in his behalf. There can be little doubt, we should imagine, as to the result. Allowing the utmost for the influence of aristocratic tendencies in a money-getting constituency, and ranking at the lowest scale that political gratitude which aims to do honour to indefatigable exertion, crowned by triumphant success, we yet believe that there remains sufficient manliness, self-respect, common sense, and political virtue in the borough of Manchester to put Mr. Bright's return beyond the reach of stratagem or accident. Mr. Bright's disregard of the conventionalisms of public life have probably excited against him the enmity of both political parties. He is the representative of an entirely new school of opinions and principles; and they whose faith is pinned to old but withered forms and usages, cannot endure earnest honesty in any shape.

We are happy in the opportunity afforded us to point attention to the laborious efforts now making by Dr. Adam Thomson for the more extensive circulation, in this country, of free Bibles—that is, Bibles printed, not by the monopolist, nor by the universities, but by a voluntary combination of individuals associated for that purpose. Dr. Thomson, building upon the basis laid down, with unwearied assiduity, by Mr. Childs, of Bungay, has already effected a great work for the emancipation of the scriptures. We could wish, however, to see the present monopoly tested somewhat more severely. The powers and privileges of the monopolist, in regard to the printing of the Bible, have never yet been fairly tried in an English court of law. He derives his right from the Crown, and what authority the Crown has to forbid the printing of the Word of God by any of its subjects, it is difficult to say. We should like to see a guarantee fund of about £1,000, provided by voluntary contribution, to back an English printer in any suit to which he may be exposed, for publishing the Scriptures without note or comment. We thoroughly believe that no court of law would be found to sustain the legality of the privilege conferred upon the monopolist; and sure we are, that, with a reasonable indemnity secured, men are to be found who would put the matter to the test.

The movement on behalf of the natives of Tahiti has become pretty general throughout the country. A correspondent has called our attention to the wording of some of the memorials on this subject. They call upon Government to interfere, by negotiation or otherwise—thus leaving the door open for the employment of physical force. A missionary, we are informed, in an otherwise excellent letter, regrets the absence, from the Tahitian waters, of a man-of-war. Even the Missionary Society's memorial, as we noticed at the time of its first publication, prays for effectual interference. Our correspondent asks, and his question is worthy of being deliberately pondered, "Do not all these things point to hostilities in case negotiation should fail?" "And," he observes, and we heartily concur with him, "it becomes all petitioners to be on their guard, lest they should be found to have given unawares their sanction to the murder of French and English soldiers, in order to save the poor Tahitians."

The stir which was created in diplomatic circles in London and Paris by the annexation of the free city of Cracow to the Austrian dominions, has well nigh subsided. Each Government has separately protested against the violation of the Quadruple Treaty involved in the act—Lord Palmerston having refused to concur in a joint protest. The Ministerial journals declare that the English Government will not consent to go to war for the independence of Cracow; an exceedingly comfortable decision on their part; one, moreover, respecting which the English people would, very soon, had it been necessary, have spoken their mind. Happily, these squabbles with foreign Governments have brought out more distinctly than ever the fact, that whatever may be the views and wishes of Ministers, the British public are utterly averse to any interference with the affairs of other countries, and that they will oppose any course of policy which tends to endanger the peace of the empire. In Paris, the Cracow affair has given rise to much dissension in the Cabinet, and to rumours of Ministerial changes. Louis Philippe, who, by the way, has repeatedly set at defiance the stipulations of the treaty in question when it has suited his views, is naturally disposed to do nothing more than protest. Not so his Minister, however. M. Guizot is bent upon energetic measures, and has consequently run the risk of expulsion from office. The warlike Minister of Foreign Affairs is no match for his master.

"So long as M. Guizot, or M. Thiers, or M. Molé, or M. anybody else," a French journalist ventures to write, "is contented to carry out the King's view, he may continue Minister. But let him cross or thwart them, and he is no longer Minister of Louis Philippe." The refractory Guizot, will probably, ere long, find it necessary to give place to M. Molé, who is, doubtless, better fitted implicitly to carry out the intrigues of his master. Meanwhile, it is most gratifying to find that the French people do not sympathise with the ambitious projects of the Court. They discriminate, more generally than we are apt to suppose, between the personal schemes of aggrandisement pursued by the King, and their interests as a nation. We may, at all events, comfort ourselves with the reflection, that the controversies, and warlike rumours, and cabinet conferences, of which the annexation of Cracow has been the fruitful source, are likely to end in sound and fury, signifying nothing but—protests.

The remaining foreign intelligence of the week, we must briefly sum up in a single paragraph. In the commercial cities of Spain, even at Cadiz, once the great centre of the Protectionist system, Mr. Cobden finds admiring audiences, who vie in doing honour to the great apostle of free-trade principles, and in giving a hearty assent to the truths he advocates. "An English cotton spinner," says the *Times*, in an able article on this topic, "travelling for his health and his recreation, is fêted by Kings and caressed by municipalities, and every compliment to himself is a tribute to the opinions of which he is the recognised apostle. Nowhere can he set his foot without reminding people of the doctrines he has successfully supported—nowhere can he be honoured without an implied acknow-

ledgement of their truth." Mr. Cobden is truly an ambassador of peace. We are still without any decisive intelligence as to the progress of the civil war in Portugal, but hopes are entertained that Colonel Wyld may succeed in saving the further effusion of blood, by effecting an honourable compromise between the belligerent parties. We heartily wish Lord Palmerston's judicious mediation in this case may be attended with the success it deserves.

PRESENT POSITION OF THE EDUCATIONAL QUESTION.

THE Whig Government, we are informed, on authority vouched for as competent, do not intend to propound any scheme of National Education, at the next session of Parliament. We are unable, of course, to pronounce upon the accuracy of this piece of information; but the statement is corroborated by many probabilities. The Whigs have announced, with a customary flourish of trumpets, that they regard the education of the people to be their special mission; and our recollections of days gone by, forewarn us that where this section of politicians appropriate a grand and comprehensive principle, they are never in a hurry to embody it in legislation. It is more likely to float them as a profession, than as a *faite accomplie*. Ireland, moreover, just now, demands undivided attention, and will furnish matter enough both for counsel and for deeds. Opinion, too, is more conflicting on the educational question than was once apprehended; and, on the eve of a general election, the Whigs have found good intentions more serviceable than recorded acts. For these reasons, amongst others, we are disposed to give credence to common report, and are fully prepared to see the "comprehensive scheme of national education" quietly adjourned till next Parliament.

Assuming, then, the truth of this rumour, we must take leave to express our satisfaction thereat. The question is one of such towering magnitude, involves principles of such incalculable importance, and is fraught with consequences so large, numerous, and remote, that it will bear another twelvemonth's consideration and discussion. *Prima facie* impressions are not necessarily infallible. Knowledge of a disease is only half its cure. Confident dogmatism is but a poor basis upon which to erect a superstructure of law. "Gently, over the stones," is a caution to which some of our political economists might do well to take heed. Since the subject is one which *must* come before the Legislature for decision, time devoted to searching inquiry will be very far from lost. Our conviction is strong, that a severer sifting of facts, a fairer appreciation of practical difficulties, and a more sober and common-sense estimate of probable benefits, will not strengthen public prepossession in favour of State education. Hitherto, full volumes of experience, to which all may have access, have remained upon the shelf unread. The question claiming settlement is new only in form. Substantially, it has been upon trial for more generations than we have time to count. The State has undertaken one branch of tutorage—namely, the religious—and we know pretty well how it has sped. History, philosophy, analogy, reason, revelation—all may be advantageously consulted on this matter, before we proceed to legislation—and the more carefully and conscientiously their testimony is collected, the safer will be our eventual conclusion.

The question, of late, has been largely discussed by the public press—discussed, too, we are bound to add, with great ability, and singularly good temper. It would be out of place for us to give an opinion, as to the side on which sound argument preponderates—but we think we may point to one or two elements in debate, upon which the judgment of the public is undergoing a very material change.

The extent of the existing means of education is one of these. In the early dawn of this controversy, random and reckless assertions circulated as unquestionable facts. The utter failure of the voluntary principle was in everybody's mouth—and the people of England were declared to be the worst educated people in Europe. Patient investigation has done not a little to rebuke this slander. Like paper money for which gold is demanded, these unqualified assumptions fall to a miserable discount in the face of a steady requisition of facts. The *British Quarterly*, we are aware, has attempted to prove what others have been content to assume. We admire its chivalry more than its wisdom. On the sea of statistics, it has ventured "like little wanton boys who swim on bladders"—and, we hope, no offence—"far beyond its depth." The figures and calculations of the writer have been mercilessly tested, and his conclusions have sunk like a stone. In this department, Mr. Edward Baines, of Leeds, has done invaluable service. If his statistics will not bear the full weight of all his inference, they will, at least, rescue the voluntary principle from the reproach of inefficiency. And it is worthy of notice, that the most laborious research confirms the accuracy of his published estimate. There lies before us, at this moment, the report of the West Kent Educational Society, setting forth the statistics of educational provision in that district, collected by personal visitation of the schools. The result is, that one in every fourteen of the population is receiving public instruction—one in every twenty-four, private—total under instruction, one in nine—a proportion as high as can be fairly expected in this country. The deficiency, however—one in forty-one—is not wholly in the means of education, but in the number in attendance at school—actual accommodation having been provided for the district within 1.25 per cent. of what is required. Such is the result brought

out by pains-taking research in a locality not alleged to be specially favoured,—and there are no obvious grounds for doubting that it may be taken as a sample of the general condition of our people.

Another feature of the question is beginning to secure public notice—a feature to which, we believe, we were among the first to call attention—that desperate poverty is a social evil, scarcely to be mitigated, certainly not to be cured, by school instruction. We must begin lower down, if we would dry up the most copious sources of vice and wickedness. The material wants of the poor must be wisely ministered to before we can establish a hold upon their intellects and hearts. The *Times*, and its able Dorsetshire correspondent, have pointed out the utter uselessness, because impotency, of mental and moral training at school, where poverty and wretchedness at home are always at work to counteract its effect. Lessons of frugality are surely thrown away upon individuals unable to earn a sufficiency even of bread. Maxims inculcating cleanliness, inscribed upon the memory in youth, are apt enough to become impracticable where neither soap nor water can be procured. How can decent habits be maintained by families who have but a single sleeping apartment for men, women, and children? What will be the force of that preventive check furnished by the instructions of the schoolmaster to those whom destitution drives to the Union workhouse, and whom parochial economy compels to herd with the most abandoned of mankind? Whilst our labouring population are kept where they are—overworked, underpaid, ill-clothed, but half fed, and miserably lodged, vice will prey upon them, spite of all our teaching. The penalty society is doomed to pay for its neglect of oppressed and spirit-broken industry, will be exacted to the uttermost farthing. And, however romantic may be the anticipations of sentimental philanthropists as to the regenerating power of State education, common-sense and daily experience will concur in proving that the body must be cared for before the mind can be trained to virtue. The labourer's home will be far more than a match for the National school—and ruthless necessity will undo in a few months all the moral good which the soundest instruction has done.

There is one more point which is becoming clearer by the friction of controversy. The liberty of the subject is imperilled, at all events, wherever Government assumes the functions of the schoolmaster. This, even the heartiest advocates of State interference are obliged to admit. The principle may be a very active one, but then, like gun-cotton, it will be liable to inconvenient explosions. Nor has it yet been shown that the danger can be wholly obviated. The plan suggested by Mr. Swaine in his pamphlet on the question, is by far the best we have yet seen, and circumscribes the motive power by numerous and ingeniously contrived limitations. But the public asks, and waits for a reply, "Why resort to an agency so liable to abuse? If all these precautions, and this incessant watchfulness, are requisite, to prevent the machinery from being worked to despotic purposes, is it wise to resort to it, unless an overwhelming necessity can be proved?"

We rejoice in our expectation that these and kindred topics will be discussed and re-discussed before a decision is asked at the hands of the Legislature. None can value popular education more highly than do we. But, then, the education we desire for the people, is far more "comprehensive" than any which Government could offer. Besides communicating information to the mind, we deem it necessary to mould the character, and to give healthy exercise to human sense of responsibility. The one must be done, in part, at least, by just and impartial laws—the other can only be secured by the voluntary principle. The vital question is, not how a due amount of school-teaching may be secured for the poor—but, on what principle society, as a whole, may be trained most successfully to a high moral condition? And, we believe, that the more thoroughly this question is considered, the more confident will be the conviction of the public, that the State cannot interfere for the culture of mind without permanently retarding the work it undertakes to advance.

DEATH BY DESTITUTION.

Two cases have been recently brought before the deputy-coroner for Middlesex, Mr. G. J. Mills, in which death appears to have been produced, or to speak in the mildest terms, hastened, by extreme destitution. The first was that of a young needle-woman; the second, that of an infant. The one occurred in Mary-le-bone, the other in St. Pancras—two of the wealthiest districts of the metropolis. In each case, the jury attributed to their verdict a severe and indignant censure of the heartless manner in which State charity, or, in other words, parochial relief, is doled out to the suffering poor—and, in both, the evidence fully warranted even a more decided expression of feeling.

There is something peculiarly fearful in the thought, that many of our fellow-creatures may be expiring in the very heart of plenty—doomed to see profusion on all hands, but to pine away in absolute want and starvation. The verdicts of our coroners' courts, we fear, do but indicate the kind, not the amount, of misery which the poor people have to endure. Here and there only can the dissolution of the bodily frame be traced up directly to want of the common necessities of life—but in how many instances are the seeds of premature death planted in the constitution by perennial wretchedness. In the metropolis, and elsewhere, there are myriads

of silent victims who, could they tell their tale of woe in the ear of society, would pierce through the hardest conventionalisms of the day, and quicken the most unfeeling to compassionate activity. Poverty has been handed over to the mercy of a State provision, and State superintendence—and it is neglected, insulted, oppressed, and occasionally starved, without provoking so much as a passing inquiry. The sympathies of the benevolent are dried up by the action of the parochial system of relief—and meek and patient destitution is jostled out of all commiseration and help by brawling and worthless imposture.

They who are fond of State provisions, might profitably ponder these melancholy facts. Official almoners are seldom either discriminating or tender-hearted. Bumble is the type of a numerous class. Who can doubt that, but for the hardening and benumbing effect of legal charity, every church in the land, every religious association, every wealthy Christian, would have in constant training and exercise "Sisters of mercy," doing kindly, because from the highest motives, what is now either left undone, or is done in negligence, moroseness, and even cruelty? The heart of society is ossified by Poor-laws; and the poor having been once handed over to the care of law, are supposed to be out of the reach of gospel. That which religion should, would, and could have done, has been surrendered to Government; and the consequence is, no one thinks it his duty to look after the wretched; and the substitute for individual benevolence—the deputy alms-giver of the whole parish—deems it his highest praise to withhold charity to the last extent compatible with continued existence and quiet. The whole system is based upon a vicious principle.

MR. BAINES'S LETTERS ON STATE EDUCATION.—We are glad to learn, from an advertisement in another column, that the admirable series of letters to Lord John Russell, which appeared in successive numbers of the *Leeds Mercury*, on State education, are now published in a compact and cheap form, for general circulation. It would be almost superfluous on our part, after what we have already said, to add more in their praise. Those of our readers whose faith in the sufficiency of the voluntary principle to provide for the educational wants of the community, is weak and wavering, will, we trust, brace up their confidence with the weighty arguments and facts here advanced; and we are sure that those who believe the interference of the State, in that direction, to be fraught with incalculable injury to the liberty and welfare of the people, will be anxious to give the best possible effect to their own convictions by circulating and recommending this volume.

THE POST-OFFICE.—Rowland Hill is installed in a permanent position at the Post-Office. A statement on the subject, however, which appeared in a provincial paper, is incorrect. Colonel Maberly remains as Secretary to the department of the Post-office, and a new place is created for Mr. Hill, who, without solicitation, is appointed Secretary to the Postmaster-General, with a salary of £1,200 a year. What is to be the precise line of distinction between the duties of the two offices we do not know, but we do know the most important object of the appointment—Government means to afford Mr. Hill the power of carrying out his plans of post-office improvement in their integrity. *Spectator*.—On Monday, Rowland Hill, Esq., entered upon his new appointment at the General Post-office, St. Martin's-le-Grand, and was congratulated on the occasion by the Right Hon. the Marquis of Clanricarde, the postmaster-general, and Colonel Maberly, the secretary of this establishment; also by T. S. Duncombe, Esq., the member for Finsbury, who paid a special visit on the occasion.

THE SUPPLY AND PRICE OF CORN.—The official account of the stocks of grain, pulse, and flour in bond in the United Kingdom, on the 5th of November, shows that of wheat there were 114,989 quarters, against 667,773 quarters last year; of flour, 257,985 cwt., against 278,683 cwt. "The imports of wheat and flour into Great Britain this year," says the *Mark Lane Express*, "have certainly been immense; equal together to about three millions of quarters. If, therefore, the consumption of foreign bread-stuffs had been no greater during the present autumn than it was in the autumn of 1845, we should at present have a large excess of both wheat and flour over what was held at this time last year. That there really is an excess we entertain no doubt, but it is not nearly so great as the extent of the imports would appear to indicate. From the comparatively bare state of the granaries at all the principal depôts of foreign corn in the kingdom, we question whether much more than a million quarters of old foreign wheat is left in the country. There are few persons, except those who give minute attention to the subject, but will learn with surprise that the average price of wheat, according to the *Gazette* at the present time, is only 2s. per quarter higher than at the same period last year."

REDUCTION OF THE DUTY ON TEA.—We have reasons for believing that the Chancellor of the Exchequer does not contemplate any such extensive financial experiments, in the next session, as would be implied by so great a reduction of the tea duty. *Economist*.

LORD PALMERSTON'S PROTEST.—The *Journal des Débats*, of Sunday, publishes an extract of a letter from London, dated 27th ult. (presumed to be from Count Jarnac to M. Guizot), which states, that Lord Palmerston had, on the preceding day, despatched the protest of the British Government, against the occupation of Cracow, to Lord Ponsonby, at Vienna. "This document," says the *Débats*, "is of sufficient length, and written in dry and cold language." A copy of this document was likewise forwarded to Lord Normanby, to be communicated to M. Guizot.

THE SHORT-TIME DEPUTATION, including Mr. Busfield Fernald and Mr. Oastler, is continuing its round of agitation in Yorkshire.

GOVERNMENT EDUCATION.

We hear by a circuitous, but most respectable, channel, that it is not the intention of Government to propose any plan of national education to Parliament. We cannot vouch for the accuracy of the information, but we fully believe it. All the probabilities of the case, arising out of the insuperable difficulties that would present themselves, and the feeling both among the Church and the Dissenters, in England, Wales, and Scotland, against State education, confirm the positive assurance which is said to have been given in a very high quarter. If ever there was a time when State education was obviously uncalled for and unwarrantable, it is in this very year of our history; for at no time has there been so large a proportion of the people under education. At no time has there been such intense and high principled activity, both to increase the quantity and to improve the quality of education. In this very year we see great efforts making in Wales, both by the Church and the Dissenters, to establish schools: at Brecon, a Normal school has been established; in Pembrokeshire the large amount of £5,000 is likely to be raised by the Dissenters alone for schools: in Carmarthenshire a similar movement has taken place. The National Society is also raising a large subscription for schools in connexion with the Establishment in Wales. The Free Church of Scotland has issued its plan and secured its funds for building from 800 to 1,000 schools. The British and Foreign School Society has just announced its intention to establish four new Normal schools, in different parts of the country. Ragged schools are forming rapidly in London and some of our great provincial towns. A great scheme for erecting thirty infant schools in Birmingham has been broached. In the county of Essex twenty new schools have been opened by the Congregationalists, and the splendid sum of £10,000 collected. In Cambridgeshire, Kent, Devonshire, and indeed throughout England, there is an unprecedented activity in this good cause. And wherever we find this activity, we find it in the hands of good and religious men. For Government, then, to interfere at such a time, and after the bugbears as to an alarming deficiency of the means of education have been annihilated, would be pure infatuation.

It is probable that Government will still make grants in aid of schools, possibly, enlarged grants. Of this we decidedly disapprove. It is not the province of Government; and no person who has a just view of the importance of keeping Government within its own province, and of cultivating the independent action and benevolent zeal of the public, will receive Government money for these purposes. Let us see the noble spectacle of a self-educated people, and that will be the proudest example that England can offer to the world. *Leeds Mercury*.

The *Morning Herald* also contains a statement to the effect, that there is no intention whatever, on the part of the Government, of proposing any scheme of national education.

The *Western Times* publishes the following circular, by which it will be seen that the friends of popular education in Devonshire are prepared to put forth vigorous efforts to ascertain and provide the deficiency of the means of education. We trust this excellent example will find many imitators in other counties of Great Britain:—

Feeling that further efforts are necessary to supply the deficiency of Scriptural and unsectarian education in this county, and being impressed with the conviction that the present is the time for such efforts to be made, that we may be prepared to anticipate any Government measure, we have ventured to form ourselves into a provisional committee, and to submit the annexed questions, trusting you will give them that attentive consideration they demand. Requesting the favour of a reply by November 16th,

We remain, yours truly,

WILLIAM LEE, Exeter.

JOHN DYMOND, Exeter.

HENRY MADGIN, Tiverton.

JOHN BIGWOOD, Exeter,

October 29th, 1846.

1. What daily schools of any kind for the poor exist in your town and neighbourhood, within a circuit of five miles?
2. Do you consider that any more schools are requisite?
3. Are any efforts for the extension of education being made?
4. Do you think that educational efforts should be left entirely to the different localities, or would some county organisation be preferable?
5. If a county conference should be convened at Exeter, would you favour us with your company?
6. Can you supply us with the address of any gentlemen in your neighbourhood, the friends of a liberal popular education, whom it would be advisable to invite to such conference?

DAY OF HUMILIATION IN SCOTLAND.—Thursday, the 3rd day December, is to be observed throughout Scotland by the various denominations of Presbyterian Evangelical Dissenters as a day of humiliation, on account of the afflictive visitation of Providence in the potato failure. It is intended that in Edinburgh the churches shall hold a short meeting at two o'clock, p.m., for devotional exercises, and in the evening at half-past six o'clock for all the ordinary parts of public worship. *Edinburgh Chronicle*.

ROMAN CATHOLIC ZEAL.—At the close of the Manchester Mission (says the *Tablet*), the number of Protestant converts amounted to about 120; of Holy Communions to about 9,000! The whole of last Saturday and Saturday night the confessionals were crowded by persons anxious to make their peace with God. Some remained in the church all night, waiting for their turn to approach the holy tribunal; and when the priest, at six o'clock on Sunday morning was obliged to cease the labours of the confessional and betake himself to other duties, he had to dismiss from the sacristy door many who had waited all night for him. Others, again, having made their confessions, had watched all night in prayer before the altar, as a fitting preparation for the reception of the ever-adorable sacrament.

POTATOES, in considerable quantities, arrive daily in the Thames, from Holland, France, Russia, Portugal, and the Channel Islands.

REPRESENTATION OF MANCHESTER.

There is to be a contest for Manchester. On Tuesday morning, a placard appeared on the walls, telling the electors not to "pledge their votes for Mr. Bright," as "a candidate every way more eligible will be brought forward immediately." The more eligible candidate is supposed to be Lord Lincoln. It has had the effect of spurring the friends of Mr. Bright to immediate action, and his friends met in large numbers, on Thursday night, to make arrangements for an immediate canvass. The opposition comprises, along with the Conservatives, some few of the leading malcontent Whigs, but it is thought Mr. Bright is "safe" beyond a question. Mr. John Walter is spoken of in Manchester, as an opponent of Mr. Bright. In consequence of these movements, Mr. Bright has issued the following address to the electors of the borough of Manchester:—

Gentlemen,—The sudden, but not unexpected, coalition of a small section of the Liberal party with the Tories has been followed by an attack upon me in the columns of the *Guardian* newspaper this morning, which I feel bound to notice, not so much from any influence it may have upon the approaching contest, as from a feeling that the character, not of myself only, but of Mr. Cobden also, is at stake. The charge may be briefly stated to be, that Mr. Cobden, having no intention to keep in Parliament beyond the last session, had concurred in a scheme, concocted in the rooms of the League, that I should be brought forward as a candidate for Manchester; that circumstances arose which entirely changed Mr. Cobden's position and views; and that I, from motives of personal ambition, stood in the way of his accepting the offer of the representation of the borough, and refused to release him from an implied engagement to me. The true circumstances of the case are these:—when it was first rumoured that Mr. M. Phillips intended to retire, Mr. Cobden suggested to me the probability of my being asked to succeed him, declaring that, though his own name had been often mentioned, he would not, under any conceivable circumstances, become a candidate himself. In answer to my objection to his decision, he urged that gratitude to the people of Stockport, his many pledges to them, and considerations of his own greater freedom and leisure to act upon great public questions, if not burdened with the heavy private business inseparable from the representation of Manchester, all determined him to remain in his present position. I can honestly say that I have combatted these views on many occasions, but without success. During Mr. Cobden's temporary residence in Wales, just before he left England, I received a very pressing invitation to stand for the Stirling Burghs. Before giving a reply, I wrote to Mr. Cobden on the subject of Manchester, intimating my feeling that circumstances had changed, and re-stating my opinion that he was the most natural representative of the borough, and urging him, if any change in his views had taken place, to let me know it privately, as a friend, and I would then accept the offer of some other constituency willing to accept my services. To this Mr. Cobden's reply was in exact conformity with his previous declarations; and afterwards, when I saw him in London, his statement was most positive and emphatic to the same effect. I declare solemnly that I have honestly and repeatedly pressed Mr. Cobden to accept the seat offered to him, and that it is my firm conviction that, were Mr. Cobden here, he would be the very foremost to contradict, in the most explicit manner, the unfounded charges which the *Guardian* of this morning has put forth. I feel now, however, that the contest, so far as I am concerned, is as nothing compared to its importance to your great and honoured constituency. You have always beaten the Tory party, and, single-handed, they own they cannot fight. A handful of those who once were in the Liberal ranks have joined the enemy, and by a coalition, discreditable to them, it is sought to pervert the honest political course you have hitherto pursued. The issue is unimportant to me personally; public life can yield me nothing beyond the consciousness of being useful. But to you it is of much importance. You are not second to any constituency in the empire, and your adherence to, or rejection of, your long held principles, will deeply affect the character and proceedings of the coming Parliament. I am, &c.,

Manchester, Nov. 28.

JOHN BRIGHT.

MR. VINCENT'S LECTURES.

MEETINGS IN HERTS.—Mr. Vincent has addressed two crowded and influential meetings at Royston, on the subject of education. Many farmers attended from the neighbouring villages, who seemed thoroughly to relish all the thorough-going sentiments.

AT BALDOCK two very crowded meetings were held in the British School-room, presided over by Mr. S. V. Edwards, vicar of Newnham. At this place Mr. Vincent addressed the people on the philosophy of human progress, showing that all changes in society and Government were the result of uncontrollable causes. The educational and moral wants of the age were strongly insisted upon, and stirring appeals made to the wealthy classes to combine their sympathies with the poor to aid in the great work of mental, moral, social, and political progress. The worthy chairman expressed himself delighted with the sentiments enunciated; and a vote of thanks was tendered to Mr. Vincent with warm applause.

LYNN, NORFOLK.—Mr. Vincent has addressed five crowded meetings in this town, during the past week, on Peace, Temperance, Education, and Civil and Religious Liberty. The spacious hall was crowded to suffocation, notwithstanding the charge for admission; and the meetings were alternately presided over by Mr. Hamilton, the Independent minister; Mr. Wigner, the Baptist minister; a member of the Society of Friends; and a Churchman. The people evinced a spirit of enthusiasm of the most cheering kind, and afforded strong proof of their desire to ally themselves with the cause of popular progress. At the close of the meetings, three hearty cheers were given for the success of the principles Mr. Vincent advocated.

ALDERMAN GIBBS.—In the Court of Common Pleas, on Tuesday, Mr. Justice Coltman decided in the case of Gibbs v. Flight, that Mr. Alderman Gibbs, who had been constantly elected churchwarden from 1825, was not the legally-elected churchwarden of St. Stephen's, Walbrook, in the year 1844. This opinion was concurred in by Justices Maule, Creswick, and Erle.

MEN OF THE PEOPLE.

No. II.—HENRY VINCENT.

(From the *People's Journal*.)

There are probably few of our readers but have heard of the name of Henry Vincent. Many of them must have listened to him in person; for there are fewer men who have, within a shorter period, addressed larger numbers of the British people than he has done. Wonderful is the energy and activity of Vincent! The rapidity of his progress—in one of his national tours in the cause of temperance, peace, education, and political liberty—seems almost electric. The flame of his eloquence suddenly courses through the island—from Cornwall, where the miners admire him, to Scotland, where thousands assemble at the sound of his coming. One would think that he discouraged as he ran; and that there was no time for stopping that audiences might collect. Look at the papers which record his progress, and you find that one week he is in Nottingham, Hull, Sheffield, Leeds, York, Newcastle—and the next, he is in Haddington, Edinburgh, Dundee, Glasgow, Perth, and Aberdeen. As he flies along, tens of thousands collect to receive his passing words; and he preaches to these multitudes peace, charity, temperance, love of liberty, independence, industry. During the last year, we see, from watching his progress, he has addressed about *three hundred* crowded meetings; and has travelled from *seven to eight thousand miles* to address them! It is only a man filled with the inspiration of great ideas—possessed of the soul of a hero and the enthusiasm of an apostle—who could have braved so much, attempted so much, and accomplished so much, as Henry Vincent has done. Without vital and enduring faith in the power of goodness and truth to overcome evil and error, Vincent could never have persevered so unswervingly, through good and evil report, in the cause of human progress. To give a brief outline of the history of this energetic public teacher, is the object of the present article.

Henry Vincent was born in High Holborn, London, in May, 1815—so that he is as yet but a young man, so far as years are concerned. His father was a respectable gold and silversmith, whose shop was in the street above named. When Henry had reached the age of seven years, his father became unfortunate in business; and, though he succeeded in satisfying the claims of his creditors, being unable to maintain himself in his former position, he removed to Hull, in Yorkshire, with Henry and a younger sister, and his wife. Here, after an attempt to establish himself in business, misfortune followed him. Between the years 1824 and 1827, by which time the family had increased to six children, they were living in a state of deplorable destitution. At the end of that time the elder sister was smitten with a brain fever, by which she was deprived of her reason; Thomas Vincent, the father, died; and distress and sorrow seemed to be the destiny of the unfortunate family. In the meantime Henry, with youthful courage, did his best for their sustenance. By ten years old he worked away at various callings, earning small sums of money, which served in some measure to mitigate the sufferings of his relations. At a suitable age he was apprenticed to a printer, and soon won the confidence of his master by his attention to his interests and close application to business. Here Henry Vincent's education commenced. Books were his almost constant companions, when not engaged at work. In the evenings he would run home with a book, and spend the night in reading it. He sedulously applied himself to the work of self-improvement, and made rapid progress. His mind expanded beyond himself, and he began to take a warm interest in the work of social progress. The times favoured the development of his opinions. The agitation for Catholic emancipation had fired his boyish mind, and he became an ardent emancipationist. But the event that most thoroughly roused him into political activity was the French revolution of 1830. The sound of that movement fell upon him like a clap of thunder. We have heard him say that he stood speechless when he first saw the bill at the door of a newspaper office, headed "Revolution in France!" and then he ran excitedly home to borrow the necessary money to buy the paper, and, eagerly devouring its contents, hurried through the streets, announcing the great event to every friend he met. He now became more political in his views, and at the period of the Reform Bill agitation, took active part with the radical or universal suffrage party; and, while yet in his teens, he was elected a member of the council of the Hull and Saltcoats Political Union. When his apprenticeship terminated, he removed, with his mother and the rest of the family, to London, and through the recommendation of respectable friends obtained a situation in the King's Printing-office. He soon left the firm with about sixty men, being dissatisfied with the way in which the Government printing was conducted.

The death of a relative having by this time provided Henry Vincent with a small independence, and his mind being filled with aspirations after human progress and hopes of general enfranchisement, he determined, in the year 1837, to devote himself for a time to the propagation of his deeply-cherished principles. He soon joined the celebrated and virtuous William Lovett, and a few other men of similar views, in an attempt to put the nation in motion for a peaceful and moral movement in favour of the just representation of all classes of the people in Parliament. This led to the production of the document called the "People's Charter," which was drawn up to show the possibility of embodying the principles of just representation in the form of an Act of Parliament; and upon this the country was appealed to. Henry Vincent soon became one of the most

noted of the many enthusiastic advocates for the measure. He traversed large districts of the country at his own expense, making great way among the middle and working classes. He entered Bath in 1838, amidst the ringing of the abbey bells, and the firing of cannon from the adjacent hills.

The excitement caused by the new movement extended into Wales, where the fiery descendants of the ancient British embraced the views so earnestly put forward by their young advocate, with an unwonted enthusiasm. Vincent laboured among them in public meetings by night and by day; and at the same he started a cheap paper, the *National Vindicator*, which extensively circulated in South Wales and the West of England. The vehemence of Vincent's language, and the excitement produced by his addresses, alarmed the Whig government, who took the opportunity of apprehending him while on a visit to his mother in London, on a charge of using seditious language; and, after being tried, he was found guilty, and sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment in Monmouth gaol. At the end of eight months he was brought from his cell to stand a new trial, and was again sentenced to other twelve months' imprisonment.

During his confinement, he suffered many hardships and privations; but he never murmured. He was confined in Monmouth at the time of the unhappy Monmouth riots, and deeply deplored those terrible events. The prison being full, and, apparently with the view of crushing his spirits, the authorities confined him in the *condemned cell*, contrary to all law and decency; but he preserved his playfulness of mind, and appeared to be more cheerful in disposition as his sufferings increased. At length public opinion in and around Monmouth so grew in his favour—even among the respectable and influential classes—that the Government resolved to remove him to London; and the news of the removal spreading abroad, his ride to London was quite a triumph. As the coach passed through Ross, Gloucester, Cheltenham, and Oxford, he was welcomed by the enthusiastic cheers of thousands of people. In London, he was confined in a solitary cell in the wretched Penitentiary; and it was while confined in this dungeon that the generous-hearted Serjeant Talfourd (who had held the Government brief against him), with a kindness of heart peculiarly characteristic of him, brought his case before Parliament. He spoke of Vincent in the highest terms; blamed the Government for their cruel treatment of him; and said that the sentence passed upon him had been violated by the sufferings he was undergoing. The Government were so hard pressed, that they promised to mitigate the severity of his treatment. Lord Normanby shortly after visited him in the Penitentiary, to whom he delivered his sentiments in a manly and earnest way, that went the round of the papers at the time. He was next day removed to Oakham gaol, where, after fourteen months' dreary imprisonment, living upon prison fare, and subject to every indignity, he was treated in a more Christian manner, and allowed the use of books, pen, ink, and paper.

The first use Vincent made of his new privilege was to write his celebrated "Address to the People on behalf of Temperance," which address was extolled in nearly all the public journals. It was in this address that he told the people, that "No government can long withstand the just claims of a people who have had the courage to conquer their own vices." At length, after twenty-two months' imprisonment, he was liberated by the Government, two months before the expiration of his sentence. His liberation was celebrated by a large public dinner, at which he was received with great enthusiasm, and he at once again resumed his career of public usefulness, advocating the elevation of the working classes, the extension of their political rights, their emancipation from the baneful influence of intemperate habits, with the same zeal and devotedness as ever. But he had now had some discipline in the school of experience and suffering, and the effects were visible in his public addresses. He now appealed more to the judgment and less to the feelings; and aimed less at making men angry at the bad, than at inducing them to love and aim after the good. Take, for instance, the following peroration of a complete suffrage address, delivered by Mr. Vincent at Leeds, in October, 1842:—

"I would not leave you (said he) without impressing this night upon your minds, that however beautifully true our principles may be, you should remember that they may be sullied by our own follies; and that he is the truest reformer who seeks to elevate the masses—who declares war against drunkenness and vice—who seeks, through the spirit of self-improvement, to make men worthy the rights they lay claim to; for, oh! gentlemen, there is not a truer elevator, nor a more powerful democratic weapon, than the spread of virtue and the advance of mind. Recollect, that just in proportion as the mind of the nation shall grow—just in proportion as the people shall advance in virtue and knowledge—shall we approach nearer to the day when those principles shall be calculated to win a glorious triumph amongst us. Feel, then, perfect and undying faith in the power of truth; feel that if you have right on your side you need not play the bully to make men love your principles. Feel that liberty is not a fiend; that she is not some wild and savage beast, with talons sharp, to tear in pieces all who differ from us; but feel that liberty is a kindly guardian angel, that, in her passage through the world, drops thoughts of fatness and words of kindness in the human bosom; feel this, and you will do more to make your principles respected than ever can be done by force, by folly, or by fraud. Let there be a diffusion of mind, a spread of enlightenment throughout the world. In the beautiful creation of this world, when it yet half slept in the womb of night, and chaos wrapped it round, creation seemed waiting to bring forth her beauty at the voice of the Almighty one, who said, 'Let there be light,' and, as the light beamed forth, this lovely and fertile earth sprang upon the view, and, last of all, the Godlike form of man. And, as in the physical creation, so it is now in the moral world; man's political destiny seems enwrapped in a dark and chaotic mass, but there is a new creation preparing, thoughts

are breaking from the lower masses of society, threatening to burst into pieces the trammels that have hitherto pent them up; all things are ready for a new and more glorious day; and, rely upon it, he is the highest, truest patriot who sends forth, and backs it up by honest exertions, the soul-enchanting sound, 'Let there be light.' And, as the glorious flame shall burn from mind to mind, and warm from heart to heart, soon shall be seen in the irradiating blaze of its glory, the eternal, the immutable rights of man."

During the last few years, Mr. Vincent has been engaged, with Mr. Joseph Sturge and others, in labouring to bring about a reconciliation between the middle and the working classes in their efforts to obtain a greater extension of the public liberties. His popularity has greatly increased among the middle and propertied classes, who no longer fear, as they did, to place political power in the hands of their fellow-men—even though these men should labour for their sustenance with their own hands. Vincent has taken the opportunity of testing this feeling on several occasions during the last few years, and with remarkable success. At Banbury, where he contested the election with a Whig and a Tory, a large minority of the electors, and almost the whole unfranchised population, were on his side. During the election he was offered one thousand pounds by one of the parties, to retire and use his influence against the other. He refused; because his contesting the election was a matter entirely of principle. After the election was over, he received the public thanks of the authorities for the way in which he had suppressed intemperance and preserved the peace of the town; and all parties combined to greet him at a large public *soirée*, which was attended by upwards of eight hundred persons in that small town. In 1842, when the Whig members had been turned out of their seats at Ipswich for bribery, Vincent, though quite a stranger in the town, appeared and offered himself as a candidate. Never was such a candidate heard of in Ipswich before! He denounced drunkenness, bribery, and corruption, in all their forms; and at the same time put forth his own democratic opinions, so as to command the attention and respect of all classes. Most of the Dissenters of the town supported him, and a large proportion of the middle classes; and it is said, that but for the farmers of the neighbourhood he would have been elected. As it was, he polled four hundred and seventy-three votes. In 1843, he contested Tavistock against all the influence of the house of Bedford, and lost the election only by forty-one votes. He has since stood for Kilmarnock and Plymouth, taking advantage of these opportunities for having his large views of political, moral, and social questions, brought fairly under the notice of the public.

We have been informed, by those who were present throughout the Plymouth contest, that the influence exercised by Mr. Vincent upon the population during the election was of the most salutary kind. The previous Parliamentary contest had been distinguished by the grossest behaviour on the part of the populace, whom both of the opposing parties had endeavoured to bribe and debauch, chiefly by means of intoxicating drink. Vincent set himself determinedly against all such beastly methods of influencing the voices of the electors. He urged on the large audiences which crowded to hear him night after night the duties of self-respect, self-reliance, sobriety, good conduct, and manly integrity. He preached of democratic virtue as Christianity realised and in action; and enforced upon the working classes that, without sobriety, virtue, and intelligence, they never could obtain their rights; nor, even if obtained, could they, without these, exercise them sufficiently for their own and the public advantage. The results of this teaching were apparent on the day of election, at which the vast crowd behaved with a propriety and decorum heretofore unknown in Plymouth on similar occasions.

Of late, Mr. Vincent has extended the range of his useful operations, by lecturing on historical subjects, temperance, education, religious liberty, and the peace question—for he has become a convert to the doctrine of the sanctity of human life, and the sinfulness and impolicy of all war. He was delegated to the late World's Peace Convention by the peace societies of Manchester and Tavistock. He has lately been on a mission through Scotland, where he has addressed immense numbers of the people, and has had the use of the churches of all denominations, including some of those belonging to the State-church in that country, where the ministers of the parish usually presided.

With respect to Mr. Vincent's private life, we can only further add, that he has now been married five years, and is blessed with two children. His lady has recently founded a boarding and educational establishment for young ladies in the neighbourhood of London, which is likely to become one of the most useful of our schools for the daughters of the middle classes.

In person, Mr. Vincent is rather below the average height. He is firmly and handsomely built; his complexion is fresh and ruddy; his hair is light and flowing; and his dark blue eyes are keen and animated. His head is large, and well developed in the intellectual regions; his features are finely cast, and expressive of much feeling, benevolence, and humour. In his moral character we believe him to be unimpeachable. Taken as a whole, he is a noble specimen of his class, of whom he has a thorough knowledge, with whom he deeply sympathises. We believe him to be a man endowed with qualities and faculties which may yet render him of immense service to the cause of truth and human progress; and we trust he will go forward in the path which he has marked out for himself, until he sees the objects which are so dear to his heart completely accomplished.

A number of young men in Glasgow meet at an early hour in the morning for the purpose of improving their minds. Those late, pay a fine, which goes to the purchase of books.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE AGE.

In our last number we gave a digest of the first two lectures of Mr. Dawson on the above subject, at the City of London Institution. We now subjoin a summary of the remaining two.

In pursuing the subject in the third lecture, Mr. Dawson observed, that Europe had passed through three states. The dark ages had no knowledge or vision; that following had knowledge, but no faith; while in the present day there is a perceptible tendency to combine both. In the last century men would believe nothing which they could not comprehend, and the race is not extinct now. We have critics in place of disciples; books are read not to instruct, but to be criticised; and men object to principles and things as not meeting "their views," without first ascertaining whether their views are enlightened enough to be worth meeting. We all criticise too much without the requisite knowledge, and the result is a pert sciolism rather than solidity and depth. We need more reverence and less cavilling, more disciples and fewer critics. Still there are indications of a growing faith. There is more of free-thinking (using that term in its true and not its popular sense) united with faithful living; and men are less the slaves of sects and parties, of doctrines or of dogmas. There can, indeed, be no manliness of action where there is no freedom in thinking. The world, however, are not yet of that opinion. Persecution for opinion is not yet banished; it has merely assumed another shape. It does not now work out its purpose by smite of sword and blaze of faggot, but by less open though equally venomous means. It now whispers away men's reputations—applies abusive epithets—withdraws friendship, and visits with coldness and estrangement in private the opposition and independence of public life—it has recourse to all sneaking, petty, despicable, and unmanly acts. Indeed, in many quarters, it were safer to be suspected of drunkenness and fraud than of what is called heresy—to be guilty of vices than to hold hostile opinions—and all from the foolish desire that all men should think as we do. Something, however, is being done to break down these barriers; and the appearance of books combining the opinions of various schools is a symptomatic change. The greatest men now are the most believing; and our poets are filled with faith and wonder combined with free thought. To believe only what we can understand, or what meets our present views, is infatuated foolishness; for no man starts in life with full views, while the higher he mounts the wider is the horizon. It is possible for a man to live devoutly, and yet to think freely. Where was a man who held modern opinions in greater contempt, or inculcated more terrible (alleged) heresy, than Dr. Arnold; yet was there ever a nobler man or a devoted Christian?

The tendencies of the age may be learned either by mastering its leading idea, and then examining its development; or we may examine the development to get at the idea. Prophecy also throws light on the subject; pointing, as it does, to the world's destiny, shadowing forth the history of the coming time, and revealing to us the laws which lie behind life. The poets have, indeed, imbibed much of the spirit of the prophets, and many a passage in Hebrew poetry has its parallel in that of our own time. Poetry is the best possible teaching, for from it we gain the ideal of the coming age—the profoundest truths and the finest principles, baptised in the waters of fancy and imagination.

It is a great mistake to suppose that art, science, and knowledge, require to be preached down to the people. The highest truths are cognisable by all, though the wise teacher will suit their dress and manifestations to the circumstances of men. The few—the esoteric disciples—may to-day follow the philosopher in his abstractions, and to-morrow make them intelligible to the popular sense—translating into the market-speech of men the highest thoughts and profoundest wisdom. Truth requires not to be diluted to meet the popular mind; it has only to be presented in a suitable manner, and the people can master its difficulties, and embody it in thought and action. Paul was in this respect a noble specimen of a noble class. He was all things to all men; suiting himself to all times and places, studying and meeting the requirements alike of the ignorant and the learned, the rude and the refined.

It is gratifying to notice that the present is becoming a working age. We have had enough of theories, of men dragging and straining facts and phenomena to meet their own views. The practical is now, however, more combined with the speculative, and duty is felt to be honourable as well as incumbent. Still the present is, in many respects, a vulgar age. Certain things, trades, and professions, are held to be mean, that have no inherent meanness about them. Men worship the genteel, and strive after "an independence"—to live without working for a livelihood—as the *summum bonum*. But true wisdom looks upon work as an appointed thing; as that for which we are intended, and without which we are not true spirits of the world. Not that levelling doctrines are to be sanctioned; for they are not only preposterously foolish, but dictated by the worst passions of our nature. To the Reformers and Iconoclasts of history the work of destruction has been one of sadness and sorrow rather than delight; but the levelling doctrines of the last age were low-minded and wicked, for they would have brought down all that was great and excellent to their own filthy level. But the true levelling doctrine is beautiful and divine; for it seeks not to reduce what is exalted, but to elevate what is low; not to lower the best to the level of the worst, but bringing the worst to the height of the best. The one does good, and strives to attain it; the other, with equal ability, is too lazy and ignoble for the effort.

The concluding lecture was, to a great extent, a *résumé* of the preceding ones. In speaking of the present age, the lecturer drew a parallel between it and the period of Charles I. and the Commonwealth; both being times of trial to all sects and opinions. A struggle is now going on, as then, between the most diverse elements; and, though there is a seeming turmoil and confusion, much that is great and good will ultimately arise from it. True, it is an age of noise and of nostrums; but it contains the elements of future good, and, to put any limit to the expression of opinion, would be but a postponement of the greatest truth we can obtain. The highest good can only arise from conflict; for virtue is not a mere negation, but something manly, and requiring trial and difficulty to become strong. The present age is not the small age it is represented; but it is one in which life is eminently beautiful. There is a contemplative spirit abroad, which watches all the movements of society, and marking the influence of poet, priest, and philosopher upon them; and it is a wise thing not merely to live, but to think of living—not living, as some men appear to do, by accident, but with the inquiry, What have I come into the world for? what am I doing? whither am I tending? We may be puzzled to solve many of the problems of society; but there is a sense in which every man is the only key to the past, the present, and the future. There is no fact, doctrine, or opinion, of which a man has not, at some period, had a thought passing through his own mind. For instance, men will not wonder at the existence of Jacobinism, if they look into their own minds, and find how Jacobinical

they themselves occasionally are; nor, on the other hand, will they be so intolerant to Conservatism, when they watch the tendency in themselves to be Conservative in regard to their own opinions. And what is true of individuals is also true of society—that being but a repetition of the life of individuals. There are those who would put a damper on the hopefulness of the age by referring to the disappointment of high hope, and the constant fluctuation of opinion; but those who do so do not understand the reason for these changes, while they forget that the works of a truly great man can never be blotted out, and that truths live for ever. There is an increasing understanding of the ultimate harmony of all things, and the time will come when the barriers dividing things that are not distinct will be broken down. Men will speak, not of sciences, but of science—of art, and not arts; and, in social life, mankind will be animated by one spirit, and guided by one code of morality. The morals of commerce will be more high-minded than now. Things will not be done in the commercial world which will not pass in the moral world; knavery will not be called adroitness; a skillful liar will not be reckoned a good salesman; nor will slow murder be committed under the denomination of competition. Instead of religion and politics, we shall have religious politics—religious commerce, literature, and art: whatsoever we do will be done to the glory of God.

There is also a decline of that spirit which thinks that everything can be done by planning, plotting, and intriguing, instead of openness, manliness, and free speaking. In politics intrigue has usually been the life and soul, but there is an increasing reliance on the fair and open statement and advocacy of principles as the simplest and shortest way to a desired object. As in geometry the straightest line between two points is the shortest, so in morals the least ambiguous course is the honestest and best; the knave being, as Coleridge has expressed it, but a roundabout fool.

It would be well if religious men were less exclusive in their attachments and benevolence, refusing, as many of them do, to assist in effecting sanitary and similar improvements because they are not directly religious. Indeed, everything that relates to our well-being is religious. The body is not to be despised. True, it is called vile, but the term implies not that it is contemptible, but merely that it is cheap compared to the soul; while rules are given to us for its culture and preservation.

The lecturer concluded by expressing a hope that the hints which had been given would suggest useful trains of thought to many a serious mind to be ultimately worked out in life and action.

REDUCTION OF THE DUTY ON TEA.

A public meeting was held on Wednesday in the Sessions-house, Liverpool. The attendance was extremely large, the building being crowded in every part. The Mayor having taken the chair read letters of excuse from inability to attend the meeting, from W. Entwistle, Esq., and Lord Sandon.

Mr. WILLIAM BROWN, M.P., amid loud cheers, proposed the first resolution:—

That the present duty on tea, of 2s. 2½d. per lb., is exorbitant, impolitic, and oppressive—exorbitant, in being nearly 200 per cent. on the average value, and higher than the tax on any other article of general necessity; impolitic, in restricting the operations of merchants, ship-owners, and manufacturers; and oppressive, in debarring a very large portion of the community from the use of an article conducive to social comfort and domestic happiness.

In the course of his remarks the hon. gentleman said that our position with China at this time seemed to be nearly at a dead lock. To that immense empire our exports ten years ago were £1,300,000, and now they were only increased to £2,300,000, which showed in the clearest point of view possible, that there was no such thing as a one-sided trade between nations. We must buy to enable us to sell [hear, hear]; and that was the cardinal point which we must never lose sight of in discussing commercial questions [hear, hear]. All commerce was an exchange of equivalents, each party receiving from the other something more valuable than that with which they part. It was not necessary on all occasions that we should carry on a direct exchange of equivalents with any country to which we were exporting our goods, if that country had the means of paying us through some other channel; but, unfortunately, this was not the case with China, and our object, therefore, must be to increase the direct trade. Mr. Brown then contended that this increase could be effected by a reduction of the duty on tea, and quoted historical and statistical facts to show that such a reduction could be carried into effect without materially impairing the revenue, or unnecessarily alarming or embarrassing the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Mr. J. B. MOORE seconded the resolution. At the close of his speech he said that one pound of tea required five pounds of sugar; if they consumed, as they might expect, 20,000,000 lbs. of tea, they would further consume 25,000 tons of sugar; and that alone would bring to the Chancellor of the Exchequer an immense additional revenue. Then there was another calculation which must be made conjointly—viz., the preventive which a reduction of the duty would be of the frauds and illegalities which had long been connected with the sale of tea in this country, induced by the maintenance of the high duties [hear, hear].

Mr. H. Hornby, Mr. Horsfall, Mr. A. Hodgson, Mr. Blackburne, and Mr. Thornely, M.P., afterwards addressed the meeting. We subjoin the third resolution, being one most cordially received:—

That a reduction of the duty would materially assist in the moral improvement of the industrious classes, by removing inducements to intemperance, and thereby diminishing crime—by encouraging the cultivation of orderly and domestic habits—and by promoting the pursuit of intellectual rather than of sensual gratification in the hours of refreshment and leisure.

A memorial to Government was unanimously passed, and a deputation was named to proceed to London for the purpose of having an interview with the Chancellor of the Exchequer, &c.

THE TEA MOVEMENT.—Our letters from the northern towns give renewed evidence of the vigour with which the movement against the existing duty on tea is being pursued. Leeds, under the presidency of its chief magistrate, will shortly give in publicly its adhesion to the "agitation," and the manufacturers of the ancient city of Norwich have already done so.—*Times*.

RAILWAY GLEANINGS.

A NOVEL PROPOSAL.—Douglas Jerrold suggests, that in case of bullion becoming scarce the great railway companies should be allowed to issue paper money, or "conveyance notes," in which they would pay all their servants, and the public would pay them in instead of cash for the conveyance of passengers and goods. By this means the construction of necessary works need not be delayed on account of the high rate of interest.

A RAILWAY TRAIN WITHOUT A PASSENGER.—A circumstance occurred at the North Union Railway station, at Preston, on Sunday last, to which there is probably no parallel since the opening of the railway. The train which leaves the Preston station at half-past four o'clock in the afternoon took its departure without a single passenger.

PROPOSED LOCOMOTIVE DEPOT ON THE EASTERN COUNTIES.—The directors have determined to enlarge the Stratford station at the junction of the two lines. At this locality there are ten acres, and upon this it is intended to erect a locomotive depot. Operations have already been commenced, and a contract taken for £60,000. It is also stated to be in contemplation by the directors to build 200 cottages at a short distance from the spot (for the accommodation of the numerous body of servants in the employment of the company), with small gardens attached.

ANOTHER VERDICT AGAINST THE EASTERN COUNTIES RAILWAY.—On Thursday, Mr. Shillibeer, the omnibus-proprietor, recovered damages from the Eastern Counties Railway Company, for injuries sustained in a collision on the 18th of October, 1845. Mr. Shillibeer was a hale hearty man: he received a severe concussion of the brain; the facial nerve was so much hurt that a breeze caused pain; the jaw and teeth were distorted; a morbid action is still going on in the bone above the mouth, which may make an operation necessary; and his nervous system was so shaken that his memory fails; but he is gradually recovering. The jury awarded £500, including £75 that had been paid into court as sufficient compensation.

A RUNAWAY ENGINE.—On the South Coast Railway, on Wednesday night, an engine and tender started from New Cross towards London, with no person on the machines. They dashed into the station with terrific force, and came into collision with the buffers and wall at the end of the tramway of the platform: burning fuel, steam, smoke, and dust, were scattered around, the tender was crushed and doubled up, and partly forced through the windows of the office. By extraordinary good fortune, no person was hurt. The cause came out on Thursday at Greenwich Police-office. William Darts, a fireman, had charge of the engine; after putting the steam up, he left it, not properly fixed by breaks, and went away to chat with a pointsman; and the engine started off. Accused before the Magistrates, Darts pleaded imperfect knowledge of the rules. He was committed for one month to the House of Correction. The damage done by the engine is estimated at £300.

EXTENSION OF THE RAILWAY TELEGRAPH.—Government have under consideration a plan for connecting the Royal Palaces, Government offices, garrisons, fortresses, and dockyards, throughout the kingdom, by electric telegraph. According to Act of Parliament, the Government have the power of seizing all electric telegraphs on railways.

RAILWAY SUICIDE.—The *Journal de Lille* mentions that three days ago a person committed suicide near the railway station of that place by placing his head on the rail just as a train was coming up. The head was severed from the body.

The lowest of the principal English lines charges nearly double the fares on the Belgian lines, while on the Midland the fares are nearly three times as much.

A GOOD RESOLVE.—The Great Western have given notice of their intention to apply to Parliament for powers to erect bridges over the line where the public roadways cross the level.

NEW RAILWAY CARRIAGE.—Mr. Booth, the carriage builder to the North-Western, has lately constructed a first-class carriage, upon a new and improved principle. The carriage is adapted for the accommodation of four-and-twenty passengers, with guards and luggage, and measures twenty-seven feet in length, by the usual width. It is divided into four bodies, or compartments, in one length, containing six divisions each, and runs upon eight wheels. The frame work is constructed in the usual manner with springs, &c., but is divided into two parts, which being separate, move in their own centres. The superiority of Mr. Booth's invention over the usual carriage consists in the increased accommodation afforded to passengers, the absence of any oscillation, the lightness of the draught, and the great facility and safety in rounding curves. The carriage has lately made several journeys to London. The cost of construction amounts to about £600.

CANADA is shortly to be "annexed" to the United States by magnetic telegraph wires, the contract for a line from Buffalo to Toronto having been taken at 125 dollars the mile—4,000 dollars the entire distance.

ATTEMPTED BRIBERY OF THE SECRETARY OF THE GREAT WESTERN.—A story is afloat of an attempt to bribe the "leading officer" of the Great Western Company, who, of course, can be no other than Mr. C. A. Saunders. An offer of £25,000 was, it is said, made to him if he would lend his services to bring about a reconciliation between the company with which he was connected and the London and North-Western Company. According to a statement in *Bradshaw's Railway Gazette*, immediately on recovering from the surprise and agitation into which he was cast by this offer, Mr. Saunders "waited upon the chairman and an active director of his company, and informed them of the circumstance. The three gentlemen then sought to obtain an interview with the chairman of the company, said to be privy to the offer, and thus an opportunity of meeting the gentleman implicated was obtained. On the question being directly put, some little demur was made

to give an answer, but ultimately the questioned party admitted that he had authorised the mutual friend to make the proposal, and that he was one of a number of gentlemen who were willing to subscribe the sum mentioned to effect the purpose they had in view, namely, the retirement into private life of the individual whom they considered a systematic bar to the accomplishment of their designs. The two gentlemen connected with the Great Western immediately left, and thus the matter rests for the present."

A NEW MODE OF PROMOTING TEMPERANCE.—The Grand Junction railway directors have granted a free pass between Birmingham and Crewe to any of the agents of Mr. G. S. Hendrick, a large iron-founder at West Bromwich, who employs four or five to travel through the country in the promotion of the cause of temperance, to which he devotes himself.

LIABILITY OF PROVISIONAL COMMITTEE-MEN.—IMPORTANT DECISION.—In the Court of Exchequer, on Wednesday last, the Chief Baron delivered judgment in the cases of *Reynell v. Lewis*, and *Wylde v. Hopkins*, both actions against provisional railway committee-men, in which verdicts were given for the plaintiffs, the applications to the Court being for new trials. His lordship held that the mere fact of a man being a member of a provisional committee was not sufficient of itself to render him liable for the debts of the company, as it amounted to no more than a promise of co-operation. Such a promise did not constitute an agreement to share in the profit or loss of the undertaking, whatever that might be, which was the real essence of partnership. He could not be responsible as a mere member of the committee. If, however, the provisional committee appointed an acting committee to act on their behalf, and be their agent, then the members of the provisional committee would clearly be liable for the acts of the acting committee. As to solicitors, there were various questions which must be determined by the circumstances of each case, the particular terms of the prospectus, and the reasonable inferences to be drawn therefrom. A new trial was granted in both cases.

THE TELEGRAPH AND THE TABLE.—Two professional gentlemen met each other in Leicester, a few days ago, shortly before dinner, and a knife-and-fork invitation was given. "Would accept with pleasure," was the answer of the invited, "but have to go to York to-day, to see Hudson." "Oh, come along," rejoined the inviter, "and let us begin dinner: Hudson mayn't be at home: we'll send to the electric telegraph to ask." The lawyers linked arms and went off together. A messenger was sent off to the railway station, who returned while the dinner was disappearing, and reported that Mr. Hudson was "not at home," having been suddenly summoned to London. So the host and his guest made themselves quite "at home" for the remainder of the day.—*Leicester Mercury*.

DEPOSITS WITH THE RAILWAY COMMISSIONERS.—On Monday, in compliance with the standing orders, plans, sections, and books for reference, for bills for the ensuing session, were deposited with the railway commissioners, in lieu of the Board of Trade, with the Private Bill Office, and with the clerks of the peace connected with the various counties through which the line or lines have to run. The total number of lodgments of plans effected amounts to 260, being about 40 in number fewer than appeared by notice in the *Gazette*, computed at 300. The number deposited last year amounted to 678, including Scotch and Irish; so that for this session there are about half that number.

STARVED TO DEATH!

On Wednesday a jury came to a decision touching the death of Louisa Mandant, needlewoman.

Mary Ann Mandant, the sister of the deceased, was sworn. She said, I resided at 93, Crawford-street, with my mother and my deceased sister, who was a needlewoman, but unable to work. I am thirty-six years of age (she looked sixty), and am also a needlewoman when I can get work to do. My sister died on the 18th of November, at eleven o'clock in the morning. I left her in bed that morning with spasms of the stomach, and went to work at some bed-furniture in Salisbury-mews, and, when I came back, Mrs. Bryant, a lodger, said she was dead. My sister has been incapable to do work, except very little, and my mother and her were wholly dependent on my earnings, besides half-a-crown my mother received from the parish. We lived together in the top room, for which we paid 2s. 3d. per week, leaving only 3d. out of the half-crown.

Mr. Robert Dawson Harling, surgeon, examined: I made a post mortem examination of the deceased's body thirty hours after death. Externally the body exhibited all the appearances of marked emaciation. The medical gentleman here proceeded to detail his interior examination, and described the intestines as being completely shrivelled up from want of nourishment. He then observed the stomach was empty, with the exception of a portion of faeces about the size of a split pea. This was the only vestige of solid food found in the whole extent of the intestinal organs.—The Coroner: Then do you say she died from actual starvation?—Witness: The spasmodic contraction was caused from the absence of food. Dr. McIntyre was present at the post mortem examination, and entirely agreed with me.

Mary Mandant: Before we came to live in Crawford-street we lived in Salisbury-street. We were in want of food and clothing at that time. When I first applied to Mr. Messer for relief, at the workhouse, I asked him if he would relieve me, as I was out of work, and he said he could not relieve such young people. I then asked him for a loaf of bread, and he gave me one. I at the same time told him my sister and mother were without food, and he replied, "There was the workhouse, he could do nothing more for us, as my mother was a pensioner on the books." No one visited us at Crawford-street from the parish. I then went to the workhouse and got a loaf of bread every Tuesday for about seven weeks, but no money. On each occasion I mentioned that my mother and sister were in want of food, but all the answer I got was, that we must come in, although I urged that I wanted a little relief for myself and sister out, as my mother was not fit to be left by

herself. Mr. Truckwood once visited us in Seymour-place, and seeing we were without food, firing, and clothing, wanted us to go into the house, but I would sooner go miles away than do so.—By the Coroner: I believe that my deceased sister has been without sufficient food and clothing for the last three months. I have myself been so, and people have wondered how we could keep life in us. We have chiefly lived on tea and bread and butter. We have not tasted meat for days and days together—not once a week. No one has visited us from the parish since the last inquest, but we have had food given us by our landlord.

M'Kensie, the summoning officer, in answer to the Coroner, positively declared that he conveyed to the assistant overseer the stringent message given to him, that the family should be visited and relief afforded.

Mr. Messer said he did not recollect such message, but from the facts of the case being mentioned, he expected an application for relief.—The Coroner: Would you wait for such an application in the case of these starving women made known to you?—Mr. Messer: Yes, certainly. (Great sensation, and marks of disapprobation from the jury.)

Verdict: "The jurors, in the case of Louisa Mandant, unanimously agree that her death was caused from the want of the common necessities of life. That the jury regret that the officers of the parish of St. Marylebone have not done their duty in duly scrutinising the necessities of the destitute poor."

A meeting of the Board of Guardians and Directors of the Poor of St. Marylebone was held on Friday, in the board-room of the workhouse, to investigate the serious charges made against the officers of the workhouse by the above verdict. After a protracted inquiry, it was moved, and unanimously adopted, "That a special investigation into the mode of performing the duties by the whole of the relieving officers and inspectors be gone into." The inquiry was to commence yesterday.

On Monday an inquest on the body of Joseph Woodward, a child two years old, who died on Sunday week, without having been seen by a medical practitioner, was concluded in the Victory-tavern, Albany-street, Regent's-park, before Mr. Deputy-coroner Mills and a jury. The facts of the case are thus stated by the *Times*:—"Diana Woodward had four children wholly dependent upon her, including a baby, and excluding a girl just getting her own living. She was unable to take work, even if she could get it. She had nothing, having sold all her disposable furniture and clothing before her husband left her for Whitecross-street prison. The family lived on nothing till starvation compelled her to apply for relief. Here comes the one universal type of new British charity. After waiting the whole day in a crowd, she received two loaves as the weekly support of herself and four children. The alternative of the workhouse was duly obtruded upon her. When the five had lived for some days on those two loaves, and for some days Diana Woodward did not know how, she was forced to apply again. As she had not applied for a fortnight, this time she had three loaves. That, however, was the utmost. Two loaves a week or the parish. She could not get further. No ear was open to the peculiar pleas of her case. The compassion of a constable, the favour of an earlier place in the crowd of applicants, was all the kindness of a discriminating character that she met with. But nine-fold Styx, and a wall of adamant, forbade a nearer approach to the throne of British philanthropy. It was vain to plead where there was none to listen, or where no one but a relieving-officer's wooden deputy, 'Old Charley,' as he was called, could hear her cause. There was no help, and when, after six weeks' imprisonment, the poor woman's husband returns, he finds, indeed, that 'the bread-finder' has been missed, for his family is dying, and one is dead, of hunger." The jury returned the following verdict:—

That Joseph Woodward died from inflammation within the cavity of his chest, produced by natural causes; and in returning this verdict the jury express their unanimous opinion, founded on evidence given at this inquest, that certain of the relieving-officers of the parish of St. Pancras have been grossly apathetic and negligent respecting the family of which the deceased child was a member, when the direful wants of that family were made known to them, on two or more occasions, by the mother. The jury further say, that they have reason for believing that proper attempts are not made by the said officers to distinguish between the necessities of the truly deserving poor in St. Pancras, and those of persons who are not so deeply in need of food, firing, and clothing, as was Mrs. Woodward and her family, living at home during the last seven weeks. They fear that a meek and orderly manner of application disarms the said officers of all apprehension that distress is real and emergent; they condemn most strongly the wanton and cruel custom of keeping large numbers of persons waiting for relief, when early and prompt attention might, by other arrangements, be given to their statements; and they consider that in the winter season the practice is especially wicked and injurious. Finally, the jury hope that immediate steps will be taken in the parish to correct the errors which have become manifest at this inquest in the system of relieving the poor, in order both to render that system more humane, and prevent the necessity, in the approaching winter, of often summoning them or their brother inhabitants to inquire into cases of death produced by want of the common necessities of life.

The proceedings then terminated. Before separating, the members of the jury made a contribution among themselves in aid of the poor family whose sufferings had occupied so large a portion of the inquiry.

A SENSIBLE LANDLORD.—One of the first acts of the new Earl of Yarborough is indicative of a wise and successful career in the management of the vast estates which have come into his possession. He has given his tenantry at Cadney, with Howsham and Newstead, full and permanent permission to kill game on their several farms, with no other restriction than that of keeping out of the woods and covers which are not in their possession.—*Stamford Mercury*.

INDIA SALT MONOPOLY.—We understand that no fewer than nine memorials have been forwarded to the Indian authorities against the salt monopoly. They emanate from commercial bodies in Chester, Worcester, Blackburn, Manchester, and Liverpool.—*Globe*.

LITERATURE.

The Writings of the Doctrinal Puritans and Divines of the Seventeenth Century. Religious Tract Society, 56, Paternoster-row. Vol. IV.—Bishop Hopkins' Practical Exposition on the Lord's Prayer, and on the Doctrine of the Two Covenants. Vol. V.—Thomas Watson's Saint's Spiritual Delight; a Divine Cordial and Holy Eucharist.

THE Religious Tract Society are doing great service to the church of God, by publishing the series of doctrinal works, of which the volumes before us form a part. The writings of the Puritans, and other divines of the seventeenth century, pruned of some of their extravagances, cannot fail to promote a healthful spirit of piety in the hearts of all by whom they are seriously perused.

With respect to the two volumes at the head of this notice, we cheerfully bear our testimony to the general excellence of their contents. Without pledging ourselves to all the sentiments expressed in either of the works, we are honestly of opinion that they both contain some of the best portions of the writings of their respective authors, and that there is very little that ought to offend the most scrupulous Christian reader.

The form and price of this series of publications are particularly deserving of notice. The form is convenient and respectable. The price extremely moderate.

The Solar System. (Parts I. and II. Monthly Series. Religious Tract Society, 56, Paternoster-row.

THESE volumes form a very suitable work, on astronomy, to put into the hands of young people, and others, who have not previously had an opportunity of studying the science. Within a comparatively small space, they furnish the reader with a considerable amount of information on the subject. The style in which the work is written is simple and attractive; while the moral tone and tendency of it are, as might have been expected, when the source from which it emanates is considered, decidedly healthful. The Tract Society is conferring a great boon on the nation by publishing so many useful works, in such a popular form, and at a price that brings them within the reach of the poorest peasant. Let the churches seize the opportunity of usefulness thus held out to them, by multiplying efficient daily schools for the poor. A taste for reading and a desire for knowledge have yet, alas, to be created among the humbler classes, and great, indeed, will be the guilt of the churches, if, with such assistance as is now afforded them by the Tract Society, they do not bestir themselves in the matter.

Glimpses of the Wonderful. Third Series. London: Harvey and Darton, Gracechurch-street.

THIS elegant little annual comprises a description of striking works of art, stories from natural history, and marvellous incidents, for the special benefit and delight of the juvenile portion of the community. Gracefully combining the *utile* with the *dulce*, in a neat and attractive form, it is just the kind of volume we should be disposed to put into the hands of our young friends as an acceptable Christmas or New Year's present. The descriptions are written in an easy and captivating style, interspersed occasionally with poetical extracts, and inculcate incidentally, but not less effectually, wholesome truths. A profusion of woodcuts,—some of them excellent specimens of artistic skill, and all of them superior to the ordinary run of illustrations for works of this character,—will give to the volume an additional, if not superior, charm, in the eyes of the young.

GLEANINGS.

Notes to a poem are like anatomical lectures on a savoury joint.—*Schlegel*.

What is the best Government? that which teaches us to govern ourselves.—*Goethe*.

Mr. Hastie, the new Provost of Glasgow, is said to be the first Dissenter advanced to that office.

"HUSBAND'S TEA."—The third watering in the teapot, coloured with a sop of well-browned toast, makes capital tea for husbands, after a hard day's labour.

Ladies of fashion starve their happiness to feed their vanity, and their love to feed their pride.

The catechism used in the Government schools in Austrian Italy, teaches that deserters from the army will be punished in the next world with eternal damnation.

Meetings are being held all through Germany to concert measures for providing cheap food for the poorer classes of the population.

MR. SAMPSON, many years secretary to the Treasury Committee at the Bank of England, has been appointed to the responsible situation of City Correspondent to the *Times*, at a salary of £1,000 per annum.

A NEW WAY OF HEARING THE NEWS.—A fellow climbed one of the poles of the electric telegraph, in West Kent, the other day, and applied his ear to the wires in order to hear the news.—*Dover Telegraph*.

THE TEARS OF AVARICE.—Alexander wept—poor, tender-hearted fellow—when there were no more worlds to conquer. Louis Philippe, it is said, hearing of the wealth of Miss Burdett Coutts, burst into tears, not having another son to marry!—*Punch*.

Mr. Winterhalter is engaged in painting a large family picture, embracing portraits of the Queen, Prince Albert and the juvenile members of the royal family.

SINGULAR IMPORTATION.—A vessel, arrived at the port of Liverpool, has brought, in addition to a general cargo of dried fruits, five tons weight of locusts. This appears to be a very singular article of importation, to whatever use it may be practicable to appropriate it.

Dr. Williams states, in the *Medical Times*, that butlers have recently committed suicide in London, more than any other class.

When the Queen visits the Duke of Norfolk, the mayor and corporation of Arundel have determined to meet her with an address, and all the insignia of office, at the Water Gate. It has been said that her majesty would travel more into the provinces, but for the mayors, corporations, and addresses.—*Jerrold's Newspaper*.

The town correspondent of the *Inverness Courier*, says the Queen is so angry with Louis Philippe, that she has ordered all the busts and portraits of him in her palaces to be put in lumber garrets.

The ducking-stool, a relic of bygone times, and dread of all shrews, has, by direction of the mayor of Ipswich, been painted, renovated, and suspended over the staircase of the Town-hall.

Most of the factory ladies, as Sam Slick calls them, at Nassau, U.S., have objected to work by candle-light. The agents refused to let them out of the yard till bell-time, but the girls eventually triumphed.

The workmen at the tunnel at Mossiel, near Mauchline, have within the last few days discovered a rich vein of copper ore.—*Ayr Advertiser*.

WRECKS.—The *Kerry Examiner* states, that the wrecks of upwards of 100 vessels are floating about the western coast of Ireland.

GOOD NEWS FOR TRAVELLERS.—The administration of the Customs has abolished the examination of the luggage of passengers coming into France by the railroad from Belgium.—*Galignani*.

A few days back, a billiard-table, that had been carried away by the late inundation of the Loire, was found in a field near Blois. It belonged to a café in a little commune near Orleans, fifteen or twenty leagues from the spot where it was found.—*Galignani*.

ALL OR NONE.—A distinguished clergyman, a few weeks since, being requested in one of our churches to open the service with prayer, but not having been invited to preach, declined, saying that "if his friend was going to do the mowing, he might wet his own scythe."

BIRTHS.

Sept. 16, at Mirzapore, in the East Indies, of a daughter, the wife of Mr. J. H. RUDDEN, of the London Missionary Society, and eldest daughter of Mr. William Mears Newton, of Kensington.

Nov. 28, at Tavistock-villa, Shepherd's Bush, Mrs. PETER BROAD of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

Nov. 17, in the Independent chapel, Aston, Upthorpe, Berks., by Mr. John Tindal, of Needham Market, Suffolk, Mr. WILLIAM FERRIS, of Frome, minister, to FRANCES, third daughter of Mr. LANGFORD, of Aston.

Nov. 18, at Mount Zion chapel, Sheffield, Mr. WILLIAM WATKINSON, hatter, son of Mr. Charles Clapham Watkinson, both of Huddersfield, to CAROLINE MARIA, eldest daughter of Charles William TURNER, Esq., solicitor, of the former place.

Nov. 19, by license, at the Independent chapel, Alford, Lincolnshire, by Mr. W. Rose, minister of the place, Mr. BENJAMIN ROBINSON, druggist, to Miss HANNAH MORTON, eldest daughter of Mr. William Morton, maltster, both of the same place.

Nov. 20, in Trinity chapel, East India-road, by Mr. George Smith, minister, Mr. EDMUND WALKER to Miss JANE BEALE, of Poplar.

Nov. 24, at the Independent chapel, Foleshill, by Dr. Styles, Mr. JAMES PICKERING to ANN EDMONDS, both of the parish of Bedworth, Warwickshire.

Nov. 24, at the Independent chapel, Sawbridgeworth, Herts, by Mr. John Gill, minister, Mr. DAVID BILLINGS, youngest son of Mr. G. Billings, farmer, to Miss WHITNALL, daughter of Mr. William Whitnall, corn and coal merchant, Sawbridgeworth.

Nov. 25, at the Independent chapel, Ware, by Mr. G. Pearce, minister, Mr. WILLIAM BARNARD TUMBRIDGE, to Miss HANNAH DRAPE, both of Ware.

Nov. 26, at the Independent chapel, Chesham, Bucks., by Mr. T. E. Stallybrass, B.A., minister of the place, R. SCOLLES, of Chesham, to MARY BATHURST, of Amersham parish.

Nov. 27, at Union chapel, Aldborough, Suffolk, by Mr. John Matthews, the minister of the place, Mr. J. F. FISHER, of Woodbridge, watchmaker, to Miss MARTHA HANNAH WAINWRIGHT, of the above town.

Nov. 28, at the Baptist chapel, Blakeney, Gloucestershire, by Mr. W. Copley, minister, Mr. ROBERT MORGAN to Mrs. EMMA JAMES, both of Cinderford, Dean Forest.

Nov. 24, at the parish church, Quorndon, Leicestershire, Mr. THOMAS GREEN, aged 70, to Miss ANN HATFIELD, of Cottesmore, aged 131.

Nov. 28, at St. George's, Hanover-square, the Hon. BELBY R. LAWLEY, eldest son of Lord and Lady Wenlock, to Lady ELIZABETH GROSVENOR, third daughter of the Marquis and Marchioness of Westminster.

DEATHS.

Nov. 18, in the faith and hope of the Gospel, SARAH, the beloved wife of Mr. T. STRANGE, of 41, Francis-street, Newington Butts. She was the last surviving child of the late Mr. J. Devonshire, of Brixton-place.

Nov. 18, ANN, the mother of Mr. J. TURNSTALL, minister, Liverpool, in her 90th year.

Nov. 18, at Hammersmith, greatly beloved and sincerely lamented by his friends, THOMAS LITTLE ARNEY, at the advanced age of 89. He was connected with the Baptist church in that place, and sustained the office of deacon nearly 60 years.

Nov. 23, at Tunbridge, JOSEPH, the beloved son of A. BAREHAM, in the faith and hope of the Gospel, aged 24.

Nov. 24, at Clewer, near Windsor, aged 67, Mr. BIRD, for many years public lecturer on astronomy.

Nov. 27, aged 77 years, in the faith and hope of the Gospel, Mr. JOSEPH CLEMENTS, many years deacon of the church and congregation at Melbourne, Cambridgeshire.

Nov. 28, in perfect peace, Mr. JOHN WOODALL, sen., of Kingsland-cottage, Shrewsbury, in the 74th year of his age.

Nov. 30, at her town residence, in Grosvenor-square, the Dowager Marchioness of WESTMINSTER, mother of the present Marquis.

TRADE AND COMMERCE.

Friday, November 27.

BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.

BRETT, JOHN, Luton, Bedfordshire, sheep salesman.
SAMUEL, SAUL, and SAMUEL, WALTER, Birmingham, woollen drapers.

BANKRUPTS.

BICKERTON, JOHN, Luton, Bedfordshire, plait dealer, Dec. 10, Jan. 7: solicitor, Mr. Clarke, Fenchurch-street-buildings.
BORER, JOHN, Exmouth-street, Clerkenwell, grocer, Dec. 7, Jan. 11: solicitor, Mr. Ness, Dyer's-buildings, Holborn.

BURTON, SAMUEL GEORGE, Sidmouth, gas manufacturer, Dec. 9 and 28: solicitors, Mr. R. H. Terrell, Exeter; and Mr. R. H. Terrell, Gray's Inn-square, London.

GARRATT, JOHN, Islington, licensed victualler, Dec. 9, Jan. 7: solicitors, Messrs. King and Co., Queen-street, Chesham.

GAUTHORNE, WILLIAM, Liverpool, cabinet maker, Dec. 7, Jan. 19: solicitors, Messrs. Gregory and Co., Bedford-row, London; and Mr. Belshaw, Liverpool.

GROSLING, WILLIAM, Billericay, Essex, linen draper, Dec. 10, Jan. 14: solicitor, Mr. Jones, Saxe-lane.

HUDDLESTON, ABRAHAM, Boston, corn miller, Dec. 9 and 28: solicitors, Messrs. Sudlow, Sons, and Torr, Chancery-lane, London; and Mr. J. Shackleton, Leeds.

JONES, PETER, and EVERETT, EDWARD, Liverpool, joiners, Dec. 14, Jan. 7: solicitors, Mr. Storey, Featherstone-buildings, London; and Mr. Ewer, Liverpool.

NICHOLS, RICHARD, jun., Birmingham, bookseller, Dec. 8, Jan. 2: solicitors, Mr. J. Spyer, Broad-street-buildings, London; and Messrs. Spurrier and Chaplin, Birmingham.

RUSSELL, ALEXANDER, Ashford, Kent, saddler, Dec. 4, Jan. 8: solicitors, Messrs. Crosby and Compton, Church-court, Old Jewry.

VAUGHAN, JOHN MINTON, Bristol, builder, Dec. 11, Jan. 8: solicitor, Mr. C. Castle, Bristol.

DIVIDENDS.

Joseph Salmon, Beaumont, Essex, first dividend of 4s. 9d.; at 7, Frederick's-place, Old Jewry, Nov. 28, and two following Saturdays—John Bunn, Norwich, builder, first div. of 4s. 10d.; at 25, Coleman-street, any Wednesday—Benjamin Fenwick, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, draper, first div. of 5s.; at 57, Grey-street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, on any Saturday—Sydney Pilling and Robert Green Watson, Gateshead, wine merchants, second div. of 3d.; at 111, Pilgrim-street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, any Saturday—Thos. Smith and George Smith, Bishop Auckland, ironmongers, second div. of 2s. 4d.; at 111, Pilgrim-street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, any Saturday.

Tuesday, Dec. 2nd.

The following buildings are certified as places duly registered for solemnising marriages, pursuant to an act of the 6th and 7th William IV., c. 85:—

Providence chapel, Leeds, Kent.
The Independent chapel, Thirsk.
The Independent chapel, Glastonbury.

DECLARATION OF INSOLVENCY.

JEFFS, JAMES, 35, Margaret-street, Cavendish-square, saddler, Nov. 28.

BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.

PHILLIPS, EDWARD WEDGEWOOD, Bishopgate-street, dealer in glass.

TOPHAM, JAMES, Brewood, Staffordshire, road contractor.

BANKRUPTS.

ALLEN, JOSEPH BIRNIE, Brixton, and 5, Hatton-garden, brick merchant, Dec. 8, Jan. 8: solicitors, Messrs. Chauntley and Westwood, 8, Gray's Inn-square.

BROWN, CHARLES MOSES, Newchurch, Isle of Wight, schoolmaster, Dec. 8, Jan. 22: solicitors, Messrs. Rhodes and Lane, Chancery-lane.

CROFT, WILLIAM, and LUCK, GEORGE, York-road, Lambeth, drapers, Dec. 15, Jan. 19: solicitors, Messrs. Lawrence and Plews, Old Jewry-chambers.

PAYNE, JOHN, Weymouth, and Melcombe Regis, draper, Dec. 10, Jan. 12: solicitors, Messrs. Mardon and Frichard, Christ Church-chambers, Newgate-street, London; Mr. Arden, Weymouth; and Mr. W. Lambert, Exeter.

STONE, ROBERT, Petham, Kent, grocer, Dec. 10, Jan. 11: solicitors, Mr. Kirk, Symond's Inn; and Mr. Chipperfield, Canterbury.
WATSON, WILLIAM, Birkenhead, licensed victualler, Dec. 14, Jan. 7: solicitors, Messrs. Johnson and Co., Temple, London; and Mr. Bremner, Liverpool.

WILLING, GEORGE, Dartford, miller, Dec. 10, Jan. 11: solicitor, Mr. Tripp, Adelaide-place, London-bridge.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

AYSTON, WILLIAM JOHNSTON, Blairgowrie, merchant, Dec. 8 and 29.

FALCONER, ALEXANDER, formerly of Dunfermline, book agent, since of Edinburgh, Dec. 9 and 30.

M'GIBBON, JOHN, Glasgow, merchant, Dec. 7 and Jan. 4.

DIVIDENDS.

Benjamin Louis Meyer Rothschild, 71, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's Inn-fields, diamond merchant, first div. of 6s.; at 3, Guildhall-chambers, any Thursday—Henry Clarke, 13, George-street, Mansion-house, lock manufacturer, first div. of 1s. 6d.; at 3, Guildhall-chambers, any Thursday—Robert Nelson, Great Portland-street, hotel keeper, first div. of 1s. 6d.; at 3, Guildhall-chambers, any Thursday—William Mitchell, 18, Finsbury-place South, Upper Fitzroy-street, and Kent-street, furniture dealer, first div. of 10s.; at 3, Guildhall-chambers, any Thursday—Christopher Clarke, Goswell-road and Cranburn-street, draper, first div. of 4s. 6d.; at 3, Guildhall-chambers, any Thursday—M. Allen, Waltham Holy-cross, Essex, apothecary, first div. of 9d.; 3, Guildhall-chambers, any Thursday—Charles Cullledge Barley, Wisbech, grocer, first div. of 1s. 8d.; at 3, Guildhall-chambers, any Thursday—Joel Rudman, Bath, oilman, first div. of 5s. 6d.; at 3, Guildhall-chambers, any Thursday—James Waterhouse and Robert Sutton, Manchester, calico printers, first div. of 7s. 6d.; at 35, George-street, Manchester, any Tuesday—Peter Rhodes, Manchester, cotton spinner, first div. of 11d.; at 35, George-street, Manchester, any Tuesday—Benjamin Mercer Boroughs, Liverpool, ironmonger, first div. of 1s.; at 11, Eldon-chambers, Liverpool, any Thursday—Wm. Hand, Molliston, Pembroke-shire, coal merchant, second div. of 2s. 5d., and first div. of 6s. 8d. on new proofs; at 19, St. Augustine's-place, Bristol, any Wednesday—James Coulen, Cheltenham, woollen draper, first div. of 2s.; at 19, St. Augustine's-place, Bristol, any Wednesday—Charles Lewis, Bath, innkeeper, second div. of 1d., and first div. of 1s. 9d. on new proofs; at 19, St. Augustine's-place, Bristol, any Wednesday—John Gottlob Werninck, Plymouth, merchant, a further div. of 13d.; at Paul-street, Exeter, after Dec. 7—John Caines, Chilton Castelo, corn dealer, first and final div. of 3s. 2½d.; at Paul-street, Exeter, after Dec. 7—William Fordyce, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, bookseller, second div. of 4d.; at 111, Pilgrim-street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, any Saturday—Robert Baxter, Sheffield, merchant, second div. of 2s.; at 4, Commercial-buildings, Leeds, on Dec. 4, and any subsequent Friday.

BRITISH FUNDS.

	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	Mon.	Tues
Percent. Consols...	94½	94½	95	95	95½	95½
4½ for Account...	94½	94½	95	95	95½	94½
3 percents Reduced...	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½
New 3½ percent...	95½	95½	95½	95½	95½	95½
Long Annuities...	9½	9½	9½	9½	9½	9½
Bank Stock...	205	205	206	206½	206	206
India Stock...	251½	—	256½	258	—	258½
Exchequer Bills...	10pm	9pm	10pm	9pm	18pm	10pm
India Bonds...	—	22	—	—	—	20

FOREIGN FUNDS.

Belgian	98	Mexican	22
Brazilian	85	Peruvian	38
Buenos Ayres	43	Portuguese 5 per cents...	81
Columbian	16	Ditto converted	37
Danish	86½	Russian	112
Dutch 2½ per cents	59	Spanish Active	26½
Ditto 4 per cents	91	Ditto Passive	5½
French 3 per cents	82	Ditto Deferred	17½

RAILWAY SHARES.

Birmingham & Gloucester	127	London & Croydon Trunk	21½
Blackwall	8½	London and Greenwich	9½
Bristol and Exeter	81½	Manchester and Leeds	102
Eastern Counties	23	Midland Counties	124
Edinburgh and Glasgow	75	Ditto New Shares	31
Grand Junction	—	Manchester and Birm'g	75½
Great North of England	235	Midland and Derby	100
Great Western	128	Norfolk	130
Ditto Half	77	North British	37½
Ditto Fifth	30	South Eastern and Dover	67
London & North-Western	193	South Western	33
Ditto Quarter Shares	22½	Trent Valley	—
London and Brighton	69	York and North Midland	93

MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, NOV. 30.

During last week, the arrivals of wheat from the east coast were large, but this morning the show of samples was quite moderate, and, although the leading country markets are all dearer, the trade here has ruled dull at last Monday's currency. Holders of foreign being firm, very little business has been transacted. Barley meets a slow sale, except for grinding descriptions, for which there is some inquiry. Oats act quite on the reserve, still we make no alteration in prices. Indian corn continues in good demand; and, for anything near at hand, a long price would be obtained.

Wheat, Red	55 to 61	Malt, Ordinary	58 to 59
New	60 to 65	Pale	63 to 68
White	60 to 68	Bye	40 to 42
New	65 to 72	Peas, Hog	40 to 43
Flour, per sack (Town)	51 to 56	Maple	41 to 45
Barley	35 to 37	Bollers	48 to 52
Malt	42 to 45	Beans, Ticks	40 to 44

DUTY ON FOREIGN CORN.

Wheat	4s. 0d.	Barley	2 0
Oats	1 6	Oats	1 6
Peas	2 0	Peas	2 0
Beans	2 0	Beans	2 0
Peas	2 0	Peas	2 0

WEEKLY AVERAGE FOR NOV. 27.		AGGREGATE AVERAGE OF THE SIX WEEKS.	
Wheat	59s. 8d.	Wheat	60s. 11d.
Barley	42 11	Barley	42 0
Oats	25 10	Oats	25 6
Rye	42 7	Rye	40 9
Beans	46 4	Beans	46 2
Peas	49 0	Peas	49 9

BUTCHER'S MEAT, SMITHFIELD, Monday, Nov. 30.

The weather being favourable to slaughtering, and the attendance of buyers good, the Beef trade was firm at an advance in the current prices obtained on Monday last, of 2d. per 8lbs., and at which a good clearance was effected. With Sheep we were moderately supplied; while the Mutton trade was steady, and last week's prices were well supported. Calves moved off slowly, at late rates; but Pigs were quite as dear.

Price per stone of 14lbs. (sinking the offal).		Price per stone of 14lbs. (sinking the offal).	
Beef	3 10 .. 5 4	Veal	3 8 .. 4 8
Mutton	3 10 .. 5 4	Pork	3 8 .. 4 8
HEAD OF CATTLE AT SMITHFIELD.		HEAD OF CATTLE AT SMITHFIELD.	
Beasts	1,112	Calves	185
Monday	4,164	Pigs	340

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL MARKETS, Monday, Nov. 30.

Per 8lbs. by the carcase.		Per 8lbs. by the carcase.	
Inferior Beef	3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.	Inf. Mutton	3s. 4d. to 3s. 8d.
Middling do	3 8 .. 3 10	Mid. ditto	3 10 .. 4 2
Prime large	3 0 .. 3 2	Prime ditto	4 4 .. 4 6
Prime small	3 4 .. 3 6	Veal	3 4 .. 4 6
Large Pork	3 4 .. 3 10	Small Pork	4 2 .. 4 4

SEEDS, LONDON, Monday.—The operations in the Cloverseed market were on the same retail scale as last week, and in quotations not the slightest change occurred. Prices of other sorts of Seeds also remained much the same as before, with very little doing in any article.

POTATOES.—SOUTHWARK, Waterside, Nov. 30.—Since our last the supply has been more liberal, and the demand is somewhat brisker. The weather has set in very cold, and should it continue we may expect an advance in our present prices.

PROVISIONS, LONDON, Monday.—Since our last no beneficial change has occurred in the state of business. Of butter the demand for nearly all kinds of Irish has been slow and limited, and prices are the turn cheaper. Carlow, 9s. to 9s. 6d.; Carrick, 9s. to 9s. 6d.; Waterford, 8s. to 9s.; Cork, 9s. to 9s. 6d.; Limerick, 8s. to 9s.; Sligo, 8s. to 8s. 6d. per cwt. landed. Foreign was moderately dealt in. Price, 7s. to 10s. per cwt. Bacon.—Singed sides, landed, without activity in the demand, sold to a fair extent at 5s. to 5s. 6d. per cwt. Very little offered or done in sales on board for present or future shipment. Bale and tierce middles in steady request at from 50s. to 54s., as in size and quality. Hams, 6s. to 7s. per cwt. Lard, 6s. to 7s. per cwt. for bladders, and 5s. to 6s. per cwt. for kegs. To-day the weather is cold and frosty, and if it continues will likely increase the demand for butter, and improve prices.

BREAD.—The prices of wheat bread in the metropolis are from 9d. to 9½d.; of household ditto, 8d. to 8½d. per 4lbs. loaf.

HOPS, BOROUGH, Monday, Nov. 30.—The market is flat, and the recent importation from the United States to Messrs. Barclay is expected to have a material effect upon prices, should the other great brewers follow this example, and the foreign hops be found suitable.

WOOL, CITY, Monday.—The imports of wool into London last week were 3,576 bales. Of this quantity, 2,363 were from Russia, 514 from Sydney, 337 from Germany, 160 from Spain, 30 from Italy, 41 from the Cape of Good Hope, 7 from Austria, 55 from Calcutta, 26 from the United States, 3 from France, and 40 from Monte Video. The public sales commenced on Wednesday; and, provided the whole quantity expected can be landed in time, there will be about 15,000 or 16,000 bales of colonial offered, it is said, besides foreign. The whole series may probably be got through by the 8th of next month. The attendance of buyers has been good, and the auctions have gone off tolerably well. The prices, probably, will improve ere they terminate.

COTTON, LIVERPOOL, Saturday.—Cotton has been in good demand, and steady in price, throughout this week, which closes firmly, with last week's quotations of American fully supported. Sea Island has recovered from the depression quoted last week, and it is in fair demand, at full prices. Egyptian is freely offered, but is steady in price, and in fair demand from both the trade and speculators. Brazil is not much in request, but is firmly held at former quotations. For Surat the demand has improved, and full prices are obtained in the better qualities, while the lower are heavy of sale, at former rates. The sales of the week amount to 31,420 bales, including 4,800 American, and 500 Egyptian on speculation, and 600 American, 30 Maranhão, and 100 Surat for export.

TALLOW, Monday, Nov. 30.—This market is steady, and firm at our quotations, with but little disposition to give way. There are about 3,500 casks arrived in the river, not included in the stock of this day. Prices for the spring are firm, and many are looking for high prices shortly. Town Tallow is not plentiful; but fresh fair melted may be had at 49s. 6d. to 50s., net cash.

HIDES, LEADENHALL.—Market hides, 64lb. to 72lb., 3d. to 3½d. per lb.; ditto, 72lb. to 80lb., 3d. to 3½d.; ditto, 80lb. to 88lb., 3d. to 3½d.; ditto, 88lb. to 96lb., 4d. to 5d.; ditto, 96lb. to 104lb., 5d. to 6d.; Calf-skins, each, 4s. 6d. to 6s. 6d.; Horse hides, 13s.; Lambs, 2s. 4d. to 2s. 10d.; Shearlings, 1s. 6d. to 2s.

HAY, SMITHFIELD, Nov. 21.—At per load of 36 trusses.

Meadow	45s. to 75s.	Oat Straw	30s. .. 36s.
Clover Hay	65s. to 90s.	Wheat Straw	30s. .. 32s.

COAL EXCHANGE, Nov. 27.

Stewart's, 19s. 9d.; Hetton's, 19s. 9d.; Braddyl's Hetton's, 19s. 9d.; Lambton's, 19s. 6d.; West Hartley's, 15s. 6d. Ships arrived this week, 250.

GROCERIES, LONDON, Tuesday, Dec. 1.

TRA.—The deliveries amount to 480,000 lbs. The market is very quiet. Common sound Congou is 10d. to 10½d. per lb. SUGAR.—300 hhds. St. Vincent's, at auction, sold at a decline of 6d. to 1s. per cwt., middling to good grey fetched 47s. to 47½d., fine brown 43s. 120 hhds. Barbados sold at 48s. 6d. to 52s. per cwt. for middling to fine yellow. The trade bought by private contract only 250 hhds. and tierces. The refined market was very dull. Standard lumps cannot be sold better than 63s. 6d., and brown grocery 62s. 6d. per cwt.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

STOOPING of the SHOULDERS and CONTRACTION of the CHEST are entirely prevented, and gently and effectually removed in Youth and Ladies and Gentlemen, by the occasional use of the IMPROVED ELASTIC CHEST EXPANDER, which is light, simple, easily applied either above or beneath the dress, and worn without any uncomfortable constraint, or impediment to exercise. Sent, per post, by Mr. ALFRED BINYON, Sole Manufacturer and Proprietor, 40, Tavistock-street, Covent-garden, London; or full particulars, with Prices and Mode of Measurement, on receipt of a postage-stamp.

THE STANDARD of COGNAC, which is the BEST FOREIGN BRANDY.—The PATENT BRANDY, and the GENUINE SELTERS WATER, protected by the Patent Metallic Capsule, the only sure and self-evident safeguard against adulteration, can be obtained throughout the kingdom at the respective prices undermentioned, or at 7, SMITHFIELD-BARS, and 96, ST. JOHN'S-STREET, LONDON. The Capsule embossed with the words—

"SOCIÉTÉ VIGNICOLE CHAMPENOISE, BETTS FRÈRES COGNAC"—Brown, 4s. 6d. per bottle; Pale, 5s. ditto.

"BETTS'S PATENT BRANDY, No. 7, Smithfield-bars"—3s. per bottle.

"BETTS, IMPORTER, NASSAU SELTERS WATER," 10s. per dozen large bottles, 7s. small, exclusive of carriage from London.

COALS.—CUNDELL and COCKERELL, (late Beards and Co.) quote from the Coal Exchange Registry, (published by authority of the Corporation,) that during the month of October last 234,755 tons of coals were sold in London, and out of this large quantity only 78,995 tons were best coals; from whence the inference is clear, and the fact undeniable, that although the great majority of consumers order best coals, very few families obtain them. C. and C. continue to deal ONLY IN BEST COALS, viz.: Stewart's, Hetton's, Lambton's, and Hartlepool, to which their trade has been confined for the last thirteen years. Present cash price, 28s. per ton.—Purfleet-wharf, Earl-street, Blackfriars.

LIGHT.—CAMPHINE, CANDLES.—Patent CAMPHINE, in sealed half-gallon cans, 4s. 9d. per gallon; Palmer's Patent Candles, 7½d. per lb., at WILLIAM S. BURTON'S (late Rippon and Burton's), 39, Oxford-street, corner of Newman-street, whose assortment of Camphine, Argand, and Solar Lamps, and Palmer's Magnum and other Candlesticks, with all the latest improvements, and of the newest and most recherche patterns, is the largest in existence. All the seasonable novelties are now ready, and selling from 20 to 30 per cent. under any house with whom quality and style are considerations. The money returned for every article not approved of. Detailed Catalogues, with Engravings, sent (per post) free.

THE PERFECT SUBSTITUTE for SILVER.—The high estimate formed by the public during the twelve years WILLIAM S. BURTON'S (late RIPPON and BURTON'S) chemically purified material has been before it (made into every useful and ornamental article usually made in silver, possessing, as it does, the characteristic purity and durability of silver), has called into existence the deleterious compounds of "Albata Plate," "Berlin Silver," and other so-called substitutes; they are at best but bad imitations of the genuine articles manufactured and sold only by him.

	Fiddle	Threaded	King's
Table Spoons and Forks, full Pattern.	12s.	28s.	30s.
size per dozen	10s.	21s.	25s.
Dessert ditto and ditto, ditto	5s.	11s.	12s.
Tea ditto and ditto, ditto	3s.	6s.	7s.
Gravy ditto	3s.	6s.	7s.

NICKEL-ELECTRO-PLATED.—The REAL NICKEL SILVER, introduced and made only by WILLIAM S. BURTON (late RIPPON and BURTON'S), when plated by the patent process of Messrs. Elkington and Co., is, beyond all comparison, the very best article, next to sterling silver, that can be employed as such, either usefully or ornamentally. In the lengthened and increasing popularity of the material itself, and the high character of the method of plating, the public have a guarantee that the articles sold by W. S. Burton (and by him only) are, as it regards wear, immeasurably superior to what can be supplied at any other house, while by no possible test can they be distinguished from real silver.

	Fiddle	Threaded	King's
Teaspoons, per dozen	18s.	32s.	38s.
Dessert Forks	30s.	46s.	58s.
Dessert Spoons	30s.	46s.	58s.
Table Forks	40s.	68s.	75s.
Table Spoons	40s.	72s.	80s.

Tea and coffee sets, waiters, candlesticks, &c., at proportionate prices. All kinds of re-plating done by the patent process. Detailed catalogues, with engravings, as well as of every ironmongery article, sent (per post) free.

WILLIAM S. BURTON'S (late RIPPON and BURTON'S) Stock of general Furnishing Ironmongery is literally the largest in the world, and as no language can be employed to give a correct idea of its variety and extent, purchasers are invited to call and inspect it—39, Oxford-street (corner of Newman-street).—Established in Wells-street, 1880.

SILVER SUPERSEDED, and those corrosive and injurious metals called Nickel and German Silver supplanted by the introduction of a new and perfectly matchless

ALBATA PLATE.

C. WATSON (late Alderman), 41 and 42, Barbican, and 16, Norton-Folgate, aided by a person of Science in the amalgamation of metals, has succeeded in bringing to public notice the most beautiful article ever yet offered; possessing all the richness of silver in appearance—with all its durability and hardness—with its perfect sweetness in use—undergoing as it does a chemical process, by which all that is auncious in mixed metals is entirely extracted; resisting all acids—may be cleaned as silver—and is manufactured into every article for the table and sideboard.

ALBATA PLATE.

Albata Plate.	Good Fiddle.	Very Strong Fiddle.	Threaded.	King's.
Table Spoons and Forks	16 6 doz	21 0 doz	30 0 per doz	35 0 per doz
Dessert Spoons and Forks	12 6 ..	16 6 ..	25 0 ..	28 0 ..
Tea Spoons	5 6 ..	8 0 ..	13 6 ..	16 0 ..
Salt Spoons	6 0 ..	12 0 gill	18 0 ..	18 0 ..
Egg Spoons	7 0 ..	15 0 ..	13 6 gill 24s	13 6 gill 24s
Mustard Spoons	6 0 ..	12 0 ..	13 6 ..	13 6 ..
Gravy Spoons	3 6 ea	4 6 ea	7 6 each	7 6 each
Sauce Ladles	3 6 pair	4 6 pair	7 6 pair	7 6 pair
Soup Ladles	6 6 ..	8 0 ..	11 0 ..	12 0 ..
Sugar Sifters	3 6 ea	4 6 ea	5 0 each	5 6 each
Sugar Tongs	1 3 pair	1 9 pair	3 0 pair	3 0 pair
Fish Knives	5 6 ea	8 6 ea	12 6 each	10 6 each
Butter Knives	1 9 ..	2 0 ..	2 0 ..	2 0 ..

Skewers.....Fiddle, 4d. an inch; Kings and Threaded, 6d.

	Octagon Handles.	Threaded.	King's.
Table Knives, with Albata Plate Handles, and Warranted Steel Blades	22 6 per doz	25 0 per doz	25 0 per doz
Dessert ditto, to match	18 6 pr pair	19 6 pr pair	19 6 pr pair
Carver and Fork	8 6	8 6	8 6

C. WATSON begs the public will understand that this metal is peculiarly his own, and that silver is not more different from gold than his metal is from all others. On its intrinsic merit alone he wishes it to be tested; and, from the daily increasing eulogiums he receives, he is convinced that nothing can prevent its becoming an article of universal wear.

Ivory Table Knives, 11s. per dozen; dessert, 9s.; Carvers, 3s. 6d. per pair.

37-inch handsome Balance-handle Table Knives, 18s. per dozen dessert, 14s.; Carvers, 6s. 6d. per pair.

4-inch Balance-handle Table Knives, largest and best made, 20s. per dozen; dessert, 16s.; Carvers, 7s. 6d. per pair.

Ditto, with Watson's Albata Plate handles, equal to silver, 20s. 6d. per dozen; dessert, 18s.; Carvers, 8s. 6d. per pair.

Forks half the price of the above.

FRUIT DESSERT KNIVES, with FRENCH FORKS, of C. WATSON'S NEW ALBATA PLATE (which is so rapidly superseding silver), in sets of twenty-four pieces, with ivory handles, 45s.; carved ivory handles, 50s.; Albert pattern handles, 50s.; if in mahogany cases, 16s. extra. The Establishments of C. Watson have ranked pre-eminent for fifty years for their superior Table Cutlery, the whole of which is marked with his name and address, and subject to exchange if not approved of.

THREE PAPER MACHE TEA-TRAYS, 35s.; a set of three Gothic-shape ditto (including the largest size) for 35s.; three Gothic-shape japanned ditto, 25s.; three Sandwich-shape ditto, 15s.; and every article in Furnishing Hardware unusually low. Quality is here the primary consideration; hence their uninterrupted success for fifty years, and their present celebrity, as the best and most extensive Furnishing Warehouses in London.

C. WATSON'S handsomely Illustrated Catalogue and Price Current is published, and families who regard economy and elegance should possess themselves of this useful book, which may be had Gratis and Post Free from the above Address.

May be had of
JAMES ARTHUR MILES,
WHOLESALE GAS FURNITURE, BELL CRANK,
AND
GENERAL BRASS FOUNDRY WAREHOUSE,
13, PANCRAS-LANE, QUEEN-STREET,
CHEAPSIDE.

PATENT NIGHT BOLT.—This bed-room fastener is simple, secure, and infallible in action.

PATENT PORTER'S LATCH.—By this secure latch a door may be opened, with ease, from any other part of the dwelling.

PATENT DOOR and WINDOW TRIGGERS, for giving action to an alarm when a door or window is opened.

PATENT WATER-CLOSET TRIGGER.—By this simple contrivance the commonest closet becomes self-acting, and is as efficient as the most expensive one in use.

PATENT ALARUM and CALL-BELL.—This alarm is certain in its action; they are also preferred for call-bells, and by pulling the wire repeatedly, different persons may be called by their number.

BURGLAR'S ALARUMS, suitable to give notice of thieves or fire.

BYNNER'S PATENT ECONOMIC GAS-BURNER consumes less gas than any other. A public meter on the premises, by which any burner may be tested, and the above statement confirmed.

REDMUND'S PATENT NOT-RISING SPRING HINGE.—The cheapest and best door-spring, and even if broken, as efficient as when new.

SIMCOX and PEMBERTON'S PATENT ASCENDING and DESCENDING BLINDS.

HOWARD'S PATENT CONVEX IRON SAFETY SHUTTERS.—These are unquestionably the best outside shutters ever introduced.

HOWARD'S PATENT BLINDS; Venetian, Revolving, Shutter, and Office.

PEMBERTON'S PATENT DECORATIONS for Window Curtains, Bed Furniture, &c.

GLASS and PORCELAIN FURNITURE and CHANDELIERS of all kinds, registered patterns, and otherwise.

CORNICE ENDS, BANDS, FINGER-PLATES, MORTICE FURNITURE, BELL LEVERS and PULLS, en suite, ORMOLU, GLASS, PORCELAIN, &c., suitable to every style of decoration.

JAMES ARTHUR MILES,

13, Pancras-lane, Queen-street, Cheapside, Brass Manufacturer.

HALE'S LETTERS on MEDICAL GALVANISM.—Mr. W. H. HALE, the Professor of Medical Galvanism, of Brompton, is now ready to receive patients at 44, FINSBURY-CIRCUS, Finsbury-square. His new Pamphlet contains his Letters on Medical Galvanism, which any invalid may have, post free, by sending him two postage stamps. Every invalid should send for this pamphlet; its contents will convince the most sceptical of the all but miraculous effects of Galvanism, when applied by a scientific operator. All letters to be addressed to 44, Finsbury-circus, Finsbury-square.

HALE'S PORTABLE GALVANIC APPARATUS.—Mr. Halse is now ready to supply patients with his efficient Portable Apparatus. It is constructed on so simple a plan, that the most unscientific can manage it; and what renders it far superior to all other Galvanic Apparatuses is, that it will remain in action for several weeks, without the least trouble. It is constructed on precisely the same principle as the one he uses at Pelham-crescent; and, as he galvanises between forty and fifty patients every day, it may well be supposed that he has brought the Galvanic Apparatus to great perfection. Price Ten Guinea, the cash to accompany the order. Medical advice will be given how to apply it.

"HALE'S PORTABLE GALVANIC APPARATUS.—Mr. Halse, the medical galvanist, has lately explained to us the principle of his Galvanic apparatus, and has given us an opportunity of seeing it in action. We were astonished to find how perfectly he had his large batteries under control. We really think, however, that the method of regulating the power in his portable apparatuses is superior to that used for the government of his larger description. Nothing appears to be wanting in the former; their simplicity is such, that we should conceive it impossible that any person could have the least difficulty in using them."—*Court Journal*.

GALVANISM.—Extract from the *Satirist*.—"Medicus.—We would recommend Mr. Halse. His practice as a medical galvanist is very extensive, particularly amongst the aristocracy. We have ourselves tested his galvanic skill, and the result has convinced us that galvanism is of astonishing efficacy in cases of indigestion. The sensation, far from being unpleasant, is really pleasurable. We, of course, confine our observations to Mr. Halse's method of applying galvanism; he stands alone as a medical galvanist."—[Notice to correspondents.]

GALVANISM.—"The application of galvanism as a medical agent appears to be all the rage in the metropolis. Its professors have played the very deuce with the cold-water doctors, for the galvanists pretend to accomplish fully as much as the hydropathists, and as the cold-water treatment is without doubt a very disagreeable one, whilst the galvanic treatment has nothing disagreeable about it, patients now naturally resort to the latter. Mr. W. H. Halse, of Brompton, may be considered the leader in this new branch of medical science. If galvanism be as powerful an agent as it is pretended to be, the thanks of the invalid public are due to Mr. Halse, and to him alone, for it; for, without his extraordinary improvements in the galvanic apparatus, the application of galvanism would be worse than useless. That Mr. Halse ranks high as a medical galvanist is evident from the fact that the most eminent physicians of the metropolis invariably recommend their patients to him, when they think galvanism will be of service."—*Morning Chronicle*.

GALVANISM.—"Our readers may have noticed several extracts we have given from Mr. Halse's Pamphlet on Medical Galvanism. We have reason to believe that every case stated in that pamphlet is perfectly true, wonderful as they certainly are; for, a short time since, we called on Mr. Halse, and were introduced by him to a gentleman who was undergoing the operation. The patient informed us that it was not at all an unpleasant sensation; indeed, we felt it ourselves, and there was not the least unpleasantness about it. This gentleman's case was paralysis, and he declared to us, that before he came to Mr. Halse, one leg had withered away to a mere skeleton, 'but now,' said he, 'you perceive it is both stout and healthy.' Such, indeed, was the case."—*Shipping and Mercantile Gazette*.

GALVANISM.—"The science of galvanism appears to be now brought to great perfection, for we are given to understand that it can be administered to mere infants, without producing the least inconvenience to them. Mr. Halse, of Brompton, is the gentleman to whom the public are indebted for this improvement in the Galvanic Apparatus; in short, Mr. Halse may be considered the medical galvanist of the metropolis. Like most other men of talent, however, he has opponents and imitators; but what reasonable person, who feels desirous of trying the remedial powers of Galvanism, would think of resorting to any imitator, when Mr. Halse can himself be applied to."—*Weekly Chronicle*.

GALVANISM.—"We hold it a positive duty to call attention to the extraordinary cures lately effected by Mr. Halse, of Brompton, London, by the means of Galvanism. A detail of these may be seen in a clever pamphlet on the subject, lately published by the practitioner himself; but we are enabled to corroborate the most essential part of these statements by the fact of having ourselves undergone the operations, the process of which is no way disagreeable, while the effect is equally astonishing and complete. In asthma, more especially, the powers of galvanism, properly applied, are wonderful."—*Court Journal*.

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